

Aurora

Job Description

Job Title:	Therapy Assistant
Reporting to:	Clinical Psychologist
Location:	Aurora Cedars School

Main Purpose

Responsible for the implementation of Occupational Therapy, SaLT and Psychology advised interventions in a Specialist SEN School setting. The post holder will implement and review therapy interventions as identified by the Therapy Team, through assessment and as set out as part of an Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP), to enable students to fulfil their potential in all aspects of their lives. These will include occupational therapy interventions as well as sensory and creative activities such as therapeutic art activities. Speech and Language interventions and psychology interventions as and when required.

Key Accountabilities

- Enable students to regulate the impacts their sensory and emotional needs have on them
- Enable students to develop SaLT strategies to help support them accessing education and society
- Enable students to learn and develop independence skills and strategies to increase access to the world around them successfully and prepare them for adulthood
- Ensure young people are provided the tools they require to facilitate access to the wider world
- Support staff in an integrated way to support the meeting of targets and monitoring of progress in sensory development and SaLT development
- Monitor and report on OT, SaLT and Psychology input within the classrooms to ensure a rich clinical approach is available as part of our core offer for all students
- Keep detailed records of interventions and outcomes
- Meet regularly with the Occupational Therapist, Speech and Language Therapist, Clinical Psychologist and/or SENCo to feedback on work done, outcomes and alternative approaches
- To provide reports for termly reports, Annual Reviews and other key information-sharing opportunities.

Key Duties

- Work effectively with teachers and key staff across the setting, including the SENCo and SLT group to understand the student and their needs and develop and implement effective interventions both in and outside of lessons
- Develop appropriate profiles on all appropriate children with the Clinical Team
- Work to develop integrated "in class" methods in the classroom, only 'pulling children out' to one to one sessions, where absolutely necessary
- To liaise effectively with teachers, the Occupational Therapist, Speech and Language Therapist, Clinical Psychologist and the SENCO such that best practice is evidenced throughout the whole curriculum.
- To be professionally and legally accountable in relation to KCSIE.

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- To be accountable for the delivery of Occupational Therapy and other regulation programmes as advised by the Occupational Therapist and/or therapy team.
- To be accountable for the delivery of Speech and Language Therapy and other SaLT programmes as advised by the Speech and Language Therapist and/or therapy team.
- To be accountable for the delivery of Psychology and other Psychology programmes as advised by the Clinical Psychologist and/or therapy team.
- To provide professional support and leadership as appropriate to other Assistants.
- To engage in relevant training as advised by the Occupational Therapist, SaLT, Clinical Psychologist and SLT group, to ensure ongoing professional development.
- To manage Occupational Therapy, SaLT and Psychology resources on a day to day basis.
- To ensure compliance with Aurora policies, regulations and protocols.
- To advise colleagues in the multidisciplinary clinical team and senior leaders about issues related to Occupational Therapy, SaLT and Psychology
- To maintain regular records of intervention using agreed protocols and in line with the code of professional conduct.
- To attend appropriate multidisciplinary student reviews and team meetings; promoting our culture of joint working with other disciplines and outside agencies.

Knowledge, Skills and Experience

Knowledge

- Supporting individual development and care plans and assisting individuals in accordance with their needs and wishes, particularly their mobility, physical management and postural management.
- Supporting individual development and care plans and assisting individuals in accordance with their needs and wishes, particularly their speech and language needs
- Clear understanding of relevant protection procedures and health and safety procedures
- Experience in working with young people with sensory and physical health needs in an educational setting.
- Knowledge of the roles of other professionals in health, social and education setting.
- Knowledge of legislation relevant to Occupational Therapy, SaLT, Psychology, education and social care.
- Knowledge of the National Curriculum and school settings is desirable.

Skills

- Excellent communication skills, both verbal and written, including report writing.
- Supportive, and with the ability to adapt to changing circumstances.
- A creative and adaptable approach to work.
- Ability to apply and evaluate individual treatment programmes.
- Ability to form good working relationships with a wide variety of people.

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- Ability to keep accurate notes.
- Patience, determination to secure the very best for our students, and a positive attitude.
- A pragmatic approach to problem solving.

Experience

- Previous experience of a specialist setting and/or working with young people in education particularly those with Special Educational Needs
- Experience running interventions, with measureable impact, is desirable

Requirements of Role

- Recognised Level 2 qualifications in English and Maths
- OT, SaLT and/or Psychology training
- A willingness to undertake further professional development in relation to Occupational Therapy, SaLT and psychological skills, knowledge and understanding.
- High level of mental and physical stamina
- A strong desire to make a difference to young people.
- Driving Licence and willingness to drive company vehicles

Additional Information

Our mission and overarching aim within The Aurora Group is to 'Empower Uniqueness' in all the children and young people in our care.

We seek to achieve this by enabling and creating environments conducive to high quality care, learning, therapeutic and clinical input for young people to take control of their lives and achieve the maximum level of independence, however this is defined by them or for them.

Our aim is to provide personalised programmes of outstanding education and care governed by 'The Aurora Way', which is a set of principles guiding all of our policy and practice. The Aurora Way is based on five values; Caring, Ambitious, Collaborative, Trusted, Innovative.

- As part of the Aurora Group all staff are expected at all times to behave and act in a way which promotes and contributes to the overall aims, values and ethos of the Company.
- All staff are required to participate in regular training and other learning activities, and in supervision, appraisal and development as required by the Company's policies and procedures
- All staff are required to participate in any relevant current and new legislative and regulatory activities as may occur from time to time.

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This job description sets out a summary of the key features of the role. It is not intended to be exhaustive and will be reviewed and amended periodically to ensure it remains appropriate for the role.