

Part-time School Counsellor at Safa Community School, Dubai

In 2019 the school was awarded the title of 'Best New School in the UAE' and 2021 shortlisted as a finalist for 'Most loved', 'Happiest' and won the award for 'Best Value Added' for schools in 2021-2022 across the UAE. The school has one of the best staff retention rates in Dubai and was voted one of the 15 Best Schools in the UAE by the Schoolscompared.com survey.

Safa Community School is an all-through UK curriculum school, from FS1 to Year 13, with 2,200 on roll. (@safa_scs and [Safa Community School Youtube](#)). We pride ourselves on our high standards across all aspects of school life. This includes high academic progress and a wide variety of extra-curricular success. This is an exciting time to join SCS with a new Senior School extension offering more world-class facilities recently completed in September 2022.

Safa Community School is seeking to appoint an outstanding, highly motivated and personable part-time Counsellor. The successful candidate will be a skilled practitioner who is experienced in working in the international school setting and possess an ability to respond with dedication and care to our students and staff. We are also looking for applicants who have a proven track record of key elements of the role with experience in a similar position within the education sector. ***This is a part-time position and offered at 3-4 days per week.***

We can offer you:

Excellent CPD opportunities.

A school rated Very Good by KHDA and Outstanding by BSO where students' behaviour is exemplary.

A professional working environment where teamwork is highly valued.

A partially-selective school with a focus on academic achievement (The school's GCSE Value Added is +1.8).

Admission criteria where preference is given to staffs' children.

A school which invests heavily in the future a recent school.

A hugely talented and cohesive support staff.

We are committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and are an equal opportunities employer. Applicants must declare any criminal convictions and submit to a check with the Disclosing and Barring Service as the post is exempt from the Rehabilitation of Offenders Act 1974.

We are required for only shortlisted candidates to conduct online searches about an applicant as part of our shortlisting process in accordance with Keeping Children Safe in Education guidance 2022 in order to identify any incidents or concerns which are publicly available online. On signing the declaration on application you will be agreeing to the acknowledgement that such searches will be conducted as part of the shortlisting process. We reserve the right to interview and appoint prior to the closing date.

Education and Experience Requirements

A diploma in Counselling / Certificate in Counselling Children and Adolescents (or equivalent recognised qualification in Clinical or Counselling Psychology).

Possess a post graduate diploma or Masters Qualification in Counselling or Psychotherapy with a specialist qualification in child and adolescent work.

Teaching qualification (desirable).

BACP Accreditation, UKCP or BPC registration or other professional registering body.

Experience of specialist psychotherapeutic assessment and treatment of students with a range of psychological needs of a complex nature.

Experience in working with young children, ages 3-18, and their families.

Knowledge

Knowledge of current Child Protection and Safeguarding practice.

Experience of working in a school context with knowledge of education systems.

Awareness of global diversity and third culture issues. Skills and Abilities.

Possess highly developed verbal and written communication skills with the ability to communicate complex, technical and sensitive information to students, families and colleagues.
Ability to work as an autonomous practitioner with an appropriate level of clinical and managerial supervision.
Ability to stay abreast of current counselling developments, evaluate such in terms of suitability and utility, and disseminate such information to teachers as appropriate.

Expectations

As a professional Counsellor, it will be expected that the counsellor will support our community effectively by:
Inspiring trust and confidence.

Ensures that Safeguarding and Child Protection Procedures are followed effectively.

Develop the safeguarding action plan alongside the safeguarding team in relation to counselling and mental health and report progress made against it.

Working with colleagues to lead developments in the school's counselling service.

Gathering information from all sources to best help students.

Participate in regular external clinical supervision that is financially supported by the school.

Reporting to school bodies on recent developments in the field.

Engage in your own professional development and support staff in their professional development.

Promote achievement and share information with parents proactively through communications and parent presentations, workshops or focus groups.

Develop their profile in the school by contributing to and participating in whole school events, information sessions and the like.

Develop and collaborate with the counselling team, pastoral team and senior leaders a preventative and proactive approach to counselling and the like.

Confidentiality:

The School Counsellor should follow the guidelines and codes of practice agreed between the counselling team and senior leadership to ensure the highest levels of confidentiality in all matters.

The Counsellor should ensure all staff and students using the services are aware of the conditions of confidentiality.

Key Responsibilities

The duties and responsibilities of this post may vary from time to time according to the changing demands of the school and whilst it is recognised that there are many facets to the job, the following tasks are a minimum expectation:

To provide counselling to suit the social and emotional needs of children and provide the relevant service including, individual counselling, group counselling and family meetings.

To liaise with members of the wider school staff in order to work in the best interest of children.

To hold regular meetings with parents of children who are using the service; as appropriate.

To provide consultation where a child protection issue or other such issues arise.

To provide support and guidance to teaching staff enabling them to better identify and support children with emotional and wellbeing difficulties.

To maintain appropriate records and to ensure confidentiality is maintained in all aspects of work.

To establish, maintain and monitor appropriate administrative systems with regards to student referral and to provide termly quantitative data reports for review, evaluation and planning.

To contribute to the promotion of health and wellbeing initiatives in school.

Supporting new families in the transition into a new school and country or city.

Representing the School within the Community

As a team, the School Counsellors will:

Ensure that counselling and mental health maintains a high profile within the school

Publicise their services and developments in counselling through the school publications

Lead and present workshops to parents and families to develop greater understanding of counselling and mental health and provide strategies to support our children

Liaise and communicate with parents, guardians, carers and families effectively and respectfully

Maintain and further develop an effective online area and set of resources

Establish, encourage and maintain strong links with local, regional and international organisations

Facilitation Responsibilities

Regular facilitation of student, staff and parent groups would be undertaken to meet the needs of the community with regards to wellbeing. Some counsellors also choose to lead sessions for students and parents in areas of their expertise and we welcome all contributions that are in the best of interests of our children and young people.

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Application Process

Closing date for applications is **Wednesday, 17th May 2023 at 12 noon UAE time.**

The application process is:

All applications can be submitted on the TES Portal.

Submit a full resume / CV.

Submit a covering letter of no more than two A4 pages.

Provide at least three referees' names, telephone numbers (with international dialling codes), and email addresses. One must be a current employer.

The closing date for all applications is **Wednesday, 17th May 2023 at 12 noon UAE time.** However, applications will be processed as received, and initial interviews will be arranged for successful candidates as applications are received.

Once initial interviews are concluded, arrangements will be made individually with those candidates who will proceed to the second round of interviews.

Important Note:

Safa Community School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of all of its students.

Applicants will be required to submit a current police criminal clearance check or equivalent from their home country or current country of residence prior to appointment.