



Highly Specialist Paediatric Occupational Therapist

Scale point: 35-38 | Based in Chessington | Permanent | Full time

About the service

The Achieving for Children Paediatric Occupational Therapy Service is part of the Integrated Team for Children with Disabilities Service based at the Moor Lane Centre in Chessington, funded jointly by the Royal Borough of Kingston and NHS Kingston. The team provides a service to Early Years children, mainstream schools and special schools to support children and young people who have significant functional difficulties. Team members autonomously manage a mixed caseload with a range of neurological and developmental disabilities. To support and advise health colleagues, teaching professionals, parents and carers within the community in the management of cases.

Achieving for Children is going through an exciting period of growth and we plan to rapidly increase Special Educational Needs and Disability (SEND) referrals to the service and become the service of choice in the area of SEND.

About the role

The post holder will manage and lead service delivery in a specific area of the service e.g. a special school, the complex needs service at Moor Lane or provisions within mainstream schools. They will provide clinical support and supervision to other therapists and occupational therapy assistants. Planning the service within the specific area of work and taking the lead on providing strategic direction for others are key responsibilities of the role. They will contribute to the annual service team plan and other business and development plans as necessary and working closely with MDT colleagues the postholder will be responsible for the continuous improvement of the speciality ensuring team knowledge base is current and evidence based. The post holder will carry a complex caseload of children and young people with a wide range of disabilities and will regularly report progress for clinical governance and audit purposes.

About you: our role specification

Qualifications

- Diploma/BSc/Graduate Diploma/MSc in Occupational Therapy
- Active HCPC registration and documented evidence of CPD (maintained portfolio)
- Additional short specialist courses relevant to paediatrics

Skills and experience

- Demonstrable post qualifying clinical experience working in paediatrics
- Knowledge of current best practice in paediatric OT and evidence of its application in assessment planning, implementing and evaluating treatment
- Experience of undertaking complex assessment and treatment with a wide variety of children and young people presenting with significant and complex needs
- Experience of providing clinical supervision
- Experience of training school staff and acting as a role model for junior staff
- Working knowledge of clinical governance and audit including its implementation
- Working knowledge of legislation and its implication for both clinical practice and professional management in relation to children and young people
- Experience of addressing specific equality or diversity issues within your practice with colleagues/service users and taking action to solve them.
- Highly effective communication skills with children, young people and families, teaching and other health professionals, ensuring participation of all involved in effective management of the child's complex physical, cognitive, perceptual and /or behavioural development needs. This requires skills in persuasion, motivation, gaining consent and trust and being able to explain complex issues in plain language.
- Effective use of negotiation and influencing skills with service users and colleagues who may challenge professional opinions, decisions or obstruct delivery of intervention.

Personal attributes

- A “can do” attitude to meet targets, stay calm under pressure and promote a positive, safe work environment
- Commitment to lifelong learning, willingness to travel to other sites and work flexibly
- Strong organisational abilities including: time management, creative-thinking, problem-solving and multitasking
- A personal determination, drive, energy and ambition to overcome and achieve challenging objectives, celebrate success and deliver excellent outcomes for children. Taking a strength based approach to managing situations
- Commitment to resource-sharing and collaborative working within Achieving for Children and across organisational boundaries in the best interests of children and families.
- Outstanding communication and interpersonal skills that are open, honest, persuasive and pragmatic, including excellent negotiation and influencing skills.

The post holder will be expected to undertake other duties commensurate with the grade of the post, including deputising or working flexibly across the week to meet the business demands. This job profile is provided for guidance only.

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