



JOB DESCRIPTION

JOB TITLE: MUSIC THERAPIST – OUTREACH SERVICE

Conditions:

- Variable Hours
- PAYE – tax/NI deducted at source

Location of work:

- Individual clients in schools, residential care settings or private homes.
- This job will require for the postholder to travel to the locations. Travel costs will be reimbursed through a mileage claim or reimbursement of train / bus tickets.

Accountable to: Head of Music Therapy

Supervision: Provided by the Head of Music Therapy, other qualified RMT Team member, or an external supervisor – frequency to be negotiated (no less than once a month)

Key Relationships:

- Parents of children referred
- Teaching staff at schools
- MDT around clients
- Care staff at residential homes
- Music Therapists at RMT

Job Purpose:

- To work as part of RMT's music therapy outreach service to provide a comprehensive music therapy service to a range of clients or organisations
- To plan, implement, monitor and evaluate individual music therapy interventions, using advance knowledge of the client group
- To continually evaluate interventions and respond to the changing needs of the clients and analyse these needs within the context of their environment, taking into account multiple approaches, including psycho-dynamic, systemic, behavioural and educational perspectives

KEY RESPONSIBILITIES

Clinical Work:

- To provide clinical work as directed by the Head of Music Therapy
- To receive and evaluate referrals, assessing them in order to formulate aims and objectives for a music therapy intervention
- To work with both conscious and unconscious processes and with the music making process, to facilitate the development of relationships, emotional expression, communication and social skills, with the overall aim to contribute towards unlocking the full potential of the child
- To work with a positive therapeutic stance, with sometimes destructive and challenging behavioural patterns, enabling the development of positive experiences of interpersonal contact and relationships
- To regularly review and evaluate the progress of therapy in consultation with parents contributing to the overall understanding of the child - this will entail the assessment of complex and changing therapeutic, sensory and educational needs where a range of problems, needs and interests, viewpoints and approaches may be involved
- To utilise video and / or audio recording as a method of evaluating, documenting and communicating the client's engagement in music therapy to parents (if appropriate)
- To be aware of risk when working with clients, taking into account client, therapist and others within the therapy room and overall environment
- To effectively plan and deliver engaging lessons/sessions which inspire and enable pupils to thrive and progress on their chosen instrument

Liaison:

- To be committed to developing and maintaining good working relationships with parents and colleagues - be proactive, transparent and sensitive when communicating with parents about their children
- To adhere to appropriate levels of confidentiality in regards to sensitive information relating to or arising out of clinical work
- To be respectful to the family's cultural background, taking into account different cultural or religious beliefs and practices
- To co-work with parents during music therapy group sessions (if appropriate and helpful)
- To provide regular and concise feedback (verbal, written, video) to parents about clinical progress and issues
- To contribute towards the understanding of music therapy through training workshops and presentations to parents, explaining and illustrating the benefits of music therapy for clients

Record Keeping:

- To keep adequate and confidential records of client contact and progress of therapy
- To provide written reports as required ensuring all communication, both written and verbal, is of the highest possible standard, and that it is delivered with the necessary tact, empathy and discretion required when working with children and their parents

Professional:

- To maintain HCPC state registration
- To adhere to the professional standards and ethics as set out by the BAMT and HCPC at all times
- To regularly update knowledge base of current professional developments
- To fulfil continuing professional development (CPD) requirements as developed by the BAMT and the HPC
- To identify and address areas for professional development
- To actively participate in regular management and clinical supervision with line manager
- To recognise the mental demands of clinical work with clients, the exposure to emotionally distressing material and dynamics, and the role of personal therapy and other reflective practices in supporting professional work as a therapist
- To attend all mandatory training as required by the school or RMT

Practical:

- To take responsibility for ensuring that the room used for music therapy is kept in good order and in accordance with health and safety, and to enlist the support of the Head of Music Therapy, if this proves necessary
- To maintain and restock (if necessary) music therapy equipment

Additional information:

- The post holder may occasionally be exposed to offensive smells and bodily fluids due to the level of disability of the clients
- The post holder may occasionally be confronted with challenging behaviour by clients, which may include physically or verbally aggressive behaviour such as swearing, hitting, scratching, biting, spitting, kicking etc. - the post holder will be supported by the care team and by the clinical supervisor to develop strategies to manage, work with, reduce and prevent such behaviour
- The post holder must refrain from taking up any private work engagement with clients / organisations receiving a music therapy service from RMT for the duration of employment with RMT and for a further 6 months after termination of contract.