



JOB DESCRIPTION

Speech and Language Therapist

Job Title: Specialist Speech and Language Therapist

Grade: Band 5/6 depending on experience and qualifications

Accountable to: Team Lead

Base: Stafford

General Information

The post holder will be a member of Midlands Psychology Community Interest Company (CIC) working within the Autism Team. We are the NHS providers of autism services to children 0-18 years.

Midlands Psychology is a Social Enterprise, which provides a range of community mental health and associated support through a network of practitioners, associates and service users. The organisation is committed to a collaborative approach and engaging with other services and agencies to support individuals, families and their carers.

As a Social Enterprise we are committed to the active pursuit of social aims and re-invest profits to further develop local services and facilities. An aspiration to provide excellence is upheld across all services, and we have an active process of continuous improvement and innovation to help us achieve this. We strive to build evaluation of activities into all of the work we do, enabling use to demonstrate of effectiveness of clinical practice and contributing to the evidence base.

Overall Purpose of the Role

To be responsible for providing Speech and Language Therapy input to the specialist team, contributing to the multidisciplinary diagnostic assessment of children and young people whose behaviours and presentation are indicative of an Autism Spectrum Condition (ASC).

To contribution to the intervention services for children who have autism, according to need. This may involve 1:1 work with children and young people with a working or formal diagnosis of ASC, group interventions, consultation, training and support for careers and professionals.

To be responsible for own caseload of children, in collaboration with the Head of Service and Team Lead.

To contribution to the overall strategic development of the service as necessary. This will include consideration of referral, assessment and intervention models; and design and delivery of training packages, alongside maintaining links with other local services based within the community of South Staffordshire (including links with colleagues in Health, Education and Local Authority Services).

Main Responsibilities

- To provide detailed differential assessment of the language and social communication abilities of children and young people aged 0-18 years referred to the service as required.
- To provide social communication, advice and support according to individual clinical need and in collaboration with family and carers alongside professional colleagues.
- To provide a range of specialist therapy services, including training to others that are timely, effective and promote good outcomes.
- To work as a full member of a specialist multi-disciplinary service.
- To manage own caseload effectively.
- To maintain and manage up-to-date accurate case notes according to clinical guidelines and in-line with professional standards and Midlands Psychology service policy.
- To be responsible for the day to day planning of own case load, demonstrating good organisational and prioritisation skills.
- To be aware of national and local standards in relation to the delivery of services and to ensure these are met in individual practice.
- To support and encourage innovation in the manner in which speech and language therapy is delivered within the service and in liaison with colleagues.
- To undertake other duties that may be required from time to time for the operation of the service.
- To provide supervision to other Speech and Language Therapists where appropriate.

Knowledge and Experience

- Degree or Masters Degree qualification in Speech and Language Therapy.
- Experience of working with children and young people with social communication difficulties associated with ASC for minimum 3 years post qualification.
- ADOS or other specialist autism assessment experience would be particularly beneficial.
- To demonstrate clinical autonomy, be professionally accountable and responsible for all aspects of own clinical work.
- To possess knowledge of relevant assessment tools/procedures for differential diagnosis of social communication and language difficulties.
- To use specialist knowledge and experience of planning and facilitating group based interventions and programmes of care (Desirable - Hanen approach or EarlyBird trained).
- The post holder will be expected to communicate confidently and effectively at all levels (both verbally and in writing) expressing the complex social communication profile seen within the children and young people both within the service and outside to external audiences.
- To provide placement opportunities for SLT students and SLT assistants as considered appropriate.

Circumstances

- Full clean driving licence.
- Professional registration with The Royal College of Speech and Language Therapists and Health and Care Professions Council (HCPC).
- Enhanced DBS clearance.
- Adherence to Midlands Psychology CIC policies and procedures.

Key Skills and Behaviours

- To assist with interagency planning and collaborative meetings.
- To participate and implement joint working protocols.

- To provide profession-specific recommendations to families and other professionals as appropriate.
- To possess excellent interpersonal skills to work within team structures within the organisation.
- To engage in audit and research activities.
- To report and interpret data and professional activity as required.
- To comply with the Data Protection Act.