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Join Our Team

If you're passionate about making a difference in the lives of children with ASD then join us at Forest Bridge School and be part of a community that values understanding, respect, and genuine growth.

Together we can make a difference!



Elizabeth Farnden
Headteacher



Occupational Therapist:

Please contact the Headteacher Elizabeth Farnden to arrange an informal Teams call and learn more about the role.

to Email: head@forestbridgeschool.org.uk

Why work at Forest Bridge School

Working at Forest Bridge School offers a unique and rewarding opportunity for professionals in the field of special education. Located in the charming town of Maidenhead, just 20 miles outside of London, We are dedicated to providing a nurturing and supportive environment for children with Autism Spectrum Disorder. Since opening in 2015, the school has prided itself on its multi-disciplinary approach to learning, incorporating a carefully designed in house curriculum.

At Forest Bridge School, we embrace each child's unique journey through Applied Behaviour Analysis, guided by a profound respect for their individuality, strengths, and the distinct stages of their development. We believe in nurturing a child's core self, allowing them to express who they are without the need to mask. Our approach is family centred and community oriented, creating a supportive environment that extends beyond our school walls. We delve deeply into understanding each child's medical, mental health needs, and neurodiverse needs, ensuring our strategies are tailored specifically to them.

We operate on a foundation of transparency and mutual respect, valuing the dignity of every child. Our team works collaboratively, rejecting traditional hierarchies to foster personal connections and equal partnership. Our professionals embody empathy and adaptability, committed to learning from each child's progress to continually refine our practice.

Forest Bridge School is committed to professional development, collaborative work, and the well-being of both its staff and students. We provide dynamic, high-quality specialist training and professional development pathways for all staff, ensuring a listening, responsive, and supportive culture.

Our vision is to be a leading provider of education for children and young adults with autism, combining ABA, evidence-based therapy, and effective personalised curriculums to enable pupils to fulfil their potential, prepare for adulthood, and lead happy lives.

JOB DESCRIPTION

FOREST BRIDGE SCHOOL

JOB TITLE: Occupational Therapist

REPORTS TO: Headteacher, Senior Leadership Team, Therapies Lead

GRADE: NHS Band 5-7 London Fringe (dependent on experience)

Location: Braywick Road, Braywick Park, Maidenhead, SL6 1BN

JOB PURPOSE:

As a Paediatric Occupational Therapist at Forest Bridge School, you will provide specialist occupational therapy provision to pupils with autism, ensuring high-quality assessment, intervention, and support within our educational setting. Additionally, you will be working as part of a multi-disciplinary team, providing advice, information, support and training to staff.

MAIN RESPONSIBILITIES/DUTIES

Clinical Practice and Intervention

- Maintain responsibility and accountability for Occupational Therapy intervention, ensuring high standards of clinical care for pupils on your caseload
- Provide direct therapy to pupils with OT provision identified in their Education, Health and Care Plans (EHCP)
- Deliver small group OT intervention to classes throughout the school
- Develop and implement individualised and class-based intervention programmes
- Ensure OT knowledge, strategies, and programmes are embedded routinely throughout the school
- Work collaboratively with our wider team of therapists
- To undertake all aspects of occupational therapy clinical duties, working within the ethical framework provided by the rules of professional conduct.

Assessment and Equipment

- Conduct comprehensive assessments using appropriate tools and approaches
- Assess children for specialist equipment and make recommendations for purchase
- Set up and adjust specialist equipment for individual children
- Train parents, carers, and other agencies in the safe and effective use of equipment
- Maintain and monitor equipment safety and effectiveness

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JOB DESCRIPTION

Training and Support

- Plan and deliver training sessions, including staff INSET and parent information sessions
- Work as part of a wider professional team
- Maintain effective communication with the whole staff team
- Support the implementation of OT strategies across the school environment

Professional Standards

- Work to promote the school as a valued, professional asset within its community, outward facing to external stakeholders and through social media
- Ensure that all actions are in the interests of the pupils and the school
- To work to and exhibit the values of the school and maintain standards of behaviour in accordance with school policies, procedures, and practices.
- Maintain accurate and up-to-date clinical records including assessments, outcomes, treatment evaluation, and goals
- Write detailed reports and contribute to school-based reviews and progress meetings
- Manage own clinical and non-clinical workload efficiently, seeking support when needed
- Participate in continuous professional development activities
- Stay current with research, guidelines, and legislation relevant to practice

Multi-Disciplinary Working

- Collaborate effectively with education staff, therapists, and other professionals
- Contribute to multi-disciplinary assessments and reviews
- Provide specialist advice to colleagues and parents/carers
- Participate in team meetings and professional discussions
- Support the integration of OT approaches across the curriculum

Communication and Documentation

- Maintain thorough clinical documentation meeting professional standards
- Write clear and detailed reports for various audiences
- Communicate effectively with parents, staff, and external professionals
- Contribute to EHCP reviews and other formal documentation
- Maintain confidentiality in accordance with data protection requirements (GDPR Data Protection Act 2018)
- Maintain consistent data collection methods and reporting that are aligned with the school ethos and best practices in ABA and therapeutic provisions.

Health and Safety

- To operate at all times in accordance with Codes of Practice, School policies and procedures, with particular reference to Health and Safety, Safeguarding, Child Protection, Whistleblowing, and Behaviour Policies.

Professional Development

- Maintain HCPC registration
- Engage in regular supervision and professional development
- Keep up to date with current practice and research
- Participate in staff training
- Take responsibility for ongoing personal and professional development
- Contribute to school development initiatives

JOB DESCRIPTION

The duties and responsibilities in this job description are not restrictive and the post-holder may be required to undertake any other duties that may be required from time to time in line with the role. Any such duties should not however substantially change the general character of the post. It is anticipated that this job description will change over time in accordance with the needs of the role. The role holder will be consulted on any proposed amendments.



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Person Specification Occupational Therapist

	Essential	Desirable
Qualifications		
Occupational Therapy degree or relevant qualification	x	
Current registration with Health and Care Professionals Council (HCPC) or other relevant professional body	x	
Right to work in the UK	x	
Evidence of recent and relevant professional development	x	
Post-graduate training in relevant clinical areas		x
Sensory integration certification or training		x
Additional qualifications in Autism or Special Education		x
Experience		
Experience working with children with ASD, dyspraxia, sensory processing disorders, and developmental delay	x	
Competence in using various assessment and treatment approaches with children	x	
Experience in developing individualized treatment plans and therapy programmes	x	
Experience in evaluating intervention outcomes	x	
Experience working within a school setting		x
Experience with specialist equipment and environmental adaptations		x
Experience in delivering staff training		x
Knowledge		
Sound knowledge of child development and current best practice in children's occupational therapy	x	
Specialist knowledge of OT models, approaches, and treatment techniques	x	
Understanding of safeguarding and child protection	x	
Knowledge of education systems and EHCP processes		x
Understanding of behaviour management approaches		x
Skills and Competencies		
Clinical reasoning skills for accurate assessment and prognosis	x	
Ability to plan, organise, and prioritise clinical and non-clinical workload	x	
Excellent record-keeping abilities	x	
Strong assessment and report writing skills	x	
Effective time management skills	x	
Competent with use of basic IT packages such as Microsoft Word, Excel, PowerPoint	x	
Ability to maintain professional documentation	x	
Skills in training and supporting others	x	
Group intervention skills		x
Project management abilities		x
Research and audit skills		x
Skills in providing specialist advice to colleagues and parents	x	
Ability to maintain confidentiality in line with Data Protection requirements		x

Person Specification Occupational Therapist

Other Requirements		
Well-developed verbal and written communication skills	x	
Ability to communicate complex information clearly to various audiences	x	
Strong team player with ability to work independently	x	
Excellent organisational skills	x	
Professional approach and demeanour	x	
Commitment to continuous professional development	x	
Flexibility and adaptability	x	
Initiative and problem-solving abilities	x	
Reliability and punctuality	x	
Willingness to complete ABA training	x	

Benefits

- Competitive salary
- Sociable working hours (no weekends or evenings after 6.30pm)
- A friendly and supportive team
- Staff pensions schemes—LGPS or Teachers pension scheme dependant to role
- Free parking
- Staff wellbeing and support services
- Supervision (dependant on role)
- Staff voice— who organise social events for staff
- Tastecard employee discount scheme
- Sick pay
- Comprehensive induction
- Training for professional development such as CEU's, participation in research.
- Opportunities for career progression. Including Masters, NPQ's , UKsBA & QTS.
- Work From Home opportunities for some roles such as Class Teachers, Supervisors, Therapists and Senior Leaders.