

JOB DESCRIPTION



SENIOR SPEECH AND LANGUAGE THERAPIST

Responsible to: Vice Principal (Safeguarding & Social Care)

Main purpose:

- Deliver a specialist speech and language therapy assessment, intervention and support for students with complex communication needs.
- Support with organisational and service development initiatives to ensure the on-going provision of high quality effective multi-disciplinary therapy services for students, families and the school, working within a clinical governance framework.

Duties and responsibilities:

Clinical Responsibilities

- Work in accordance with current best practice guidance, including the Health and Care Professions Council (HCPC) and the Royal College of Speech and Language Therapists. (RCSLT) relating to standards of conduct, performance and ethics and maintain accurate clinical records.
- Deliver services within a clinical framework which evidences levels of care and outcomes.
- Carry out assessments, plan, deliver and evaluate a variety of interventions in order to deliver safe, effective and evidence-based services.
- Contribute to the creation and review of care plans for students in line with school care plan processes and at multi-disciplinary meetings to include student support needs, service development initiatives, the admissions and transitions team, and review meetings for education and healthcare plans.
- Support a school based multi-disciplinary Eating and Drinking team in the provision of services to students with eating, drinking and swallowing needs, including the contribution to student review processes, annual reviews, and support plans.
- Support the school in a range of initiatives to maintain safe practice when supporting students with eating and drinking issues, including staff training.

Communication

- Support complex case management to achieve positive outcomes for the student and their families.
- Ensure current knowledge is up to date with developments in AAC devices and instruct those working with students how to correctly and efficiently use equipment.

- Establish and maintain effective collaborative working relationships and processes with other external services and agencies including community NHS and tertiary services.
- Provide timely and accurate statistics as required by the school therapy/health team and Valence School and comply with reporting systems for recording adverse incidents near misses or other areas of concern.
- Develop and deliver specialist training and advice to others, including education staff, and other health professionals and participate in school training events including school inset development days.

Service Development and Improvement

- Lead on identified initiatives to ensure the ongoing provision and development of services to support a whole school approach to promote communication skills with students.
- Work with the school to develop clinical services under a clinical governance framework. This may include creation of policies to underpin clinical practice, the organisation of service delivery and establishing new staff training and learning processes.
- To contribute to the ongoing development of the school health and communication teams, including developing service initiatives to strengthen links with students, parents and other stakeholders.
- To assist with compiling a training needs analysis for services as appropriate and to assist in developing strategies to address these.
- To participate in staff and service development through attendance at service meetings and in-service training sessions, including taking the lead in facilitating such events and presenting information as appropriate.
- Attend professional supervision to maintain and continuously develop clinical knowledge and skills and be responsible for personal continuous professional development using self-directed learning, reflective practice and active participation in school training programmes.

General

- Maintain high standards of safety and observe good practice in relation to health and safety and safeguarding in all issues and report any concerns to line management a Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL).
- Proactively observe and comply with all school policies and procedures including those relating to child protection, equality and diversity, health, safety and security, confidentiality and data protection reporting all concerns to an appropriate person following the relevant recording and reporting processes.
- Be aware of and integrate in own practice the principles of Keeping Children Safe in Education.
- Maintain a flexible "can do" approach.

Please note that this is illustrative of the general nature and level of responsibility of the work to be undertaken, commensurate with the post. It is not a comprehensive list of all tasks that the postholder will carry out. This job description may be amended at any time in consultation with the postholder.

This role involves contact with and responsibility for children and young people and will be engaged in regulated activity. The law requires this position to have an enhanced criminal background check. This is to protect children and vulnerable adults and to safeguard positions of trust. The position is therefore exempt from the Rehabilitation of Offenders Act. If your application is taken further, you will be asked to declare details of any criminal record, even convictions that are 'spent' according to the act. If you are offered the post this information will be checked against DBS.