

JOB DESCRIPTION

JOB TITLE:	CLINICAL PSYCHOLOGIST
BAND:	Band 7
LOCATION:	Bridport CTLD based at Acland Road
ACCOUNTABLE TO:	Head of Learning Disability Services
LINE MANAGER:	LD Psychology Clinical Lead
KEY RELATIONSHIPS:	Adult LD Psychology Service and IST/CTLD's
HOURS OF WORK:	The post holder may be required to work flexibly to meet the needs of the service.
JOB PURPOSE:	The primary focus of the role will be to provide clinical services (assessment, treatment, consultation to other carers and professionals etc) to adults with Learning Disabilities living in the community across Dorset, and also to assist with supervision and guidance of doctoral trainee clinical psychologists on placement and assistant psychologists.

MAIN DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES:

1. CLINICAL

- 1.1 To be accountable for the direct delivery of a service within Learning Disabilities services and the LD Psychology team.
- 1.2 To communicate highly complex and sensitive information that requires empathy and reassurance in situations where there may be a highly emotive, hostile and antagonistic atmosphere with barriers to understanding. The highest communication and relationship skills are necessary to engage and maintain relationships with clients, families, carers, and other professionals where there are often significant barriers to acceptance and engagement in psychological therapy.
- 1.3 To be responsible for developing highly specialised programmes of care. Judgements need to be made involving highly complex facts or situations, which require the analysis, interpretation and comparison of a range of options.
- 1.4 To use a range of highly complex assessment materials (including psychometric assessments) to develop complex formulations based upon a range of theoretical perspectives, which will allow the most effective evidence-based intervention to be applied.

- 1.5 To be able to share sensitive information with clients, their carers and other professionals, whose opinion may differ.
- 1.6 To take responsibility for planning sessions and reformulate and adjust the treatment in the light of new information.
- 1.7 To conduct risk assessments and develop appropriate strategies to minimise risk, even when some information is unavailable.
- 1.8 To provide highly specialised advice (regarding particular clients with LD/ Autism/ challenging behaviour) to other professions including psychiatrists, paediatricians, GPs, Nurses, social workers, etc.
- 1.9 To plan and organise ongoing and complex activities, which require the formulation and adjustment of plans. Plan and prioritise own patient workload, including taking full responsibility for organising referrals, managing own waiting list, undertaking regular clinics that may involve seeing back to back patients.
- 1.10 To act as a member of the Learning Disabilities Psychology team, contributing the team's functioning.

2. ADMINISTRATIVE

- 2.1 To plan and prioritise workload whilst coordinating with the multidisciplinary teams and other agencies.
- 2.2 To administer a wide range of highly complex psychometric tests that require the manipulation of materials at a high level of speed and accuracy. These procedures require long periods of highly focussed concentration with narrow margins for error.

3. HUMAN RESOURCES/WORKFORCE

- 3.1 To act autonomously and independently in day-to-day practice. They will be expected to plan and chair multi-disciplinary/ multi-agency professional and family meetings (e.g. care planning/ discharge planning)
- 3.2 To share regular clinical supervision of trainee clinical psychologist and assistant psychologists. One significant aspect of their job will be to supervise, teach, and train and act as a resource to other health care professionals on a regular and ongoing basis, some of who will be above their own level.
- 3.3 To participate in clinical psychology selection committees.

4.**RESEARCH & DEVELOPMENT**

- 4.1 To regularly undertake research and development as well as supervise and help organise the research and development projects of Assistant and Trainee Clinical Psychologists.
- 4.2 To be responsible for undertaking clinical audit/outcomes assessment on a regular basis, including evaluation of own work on a regular basis using validated questionnaires and objective measures.
- 4.3 To reflect on own work, reformulate the problem and change treatment approach when necessary.
- 4.4 To gather quantitative and qualitative information at a service level, evaluate the data, and write it up in a way that can be presented and can inform better practice.

5.**POLICY & SERVICE DEVELOPMENT**

- 5.1 To implement policies for own area and participate in policy and service changes that may impact beyond the scope of current practice.
- 5.2 To make judgements involving complex facts or situations that require the analysis, interpretation and comparison of a range of options.
- 5.3 To plan and organise both ongoing and complex activities that require the formulation and adjustment of plans.

6.**INFORMATION / DATA RESPONSIBILITIES**

- 6.1 To have good word processing skills, and be able to use information technology for presentations, accessing the internet for their own information and for the well-being of their clients.
- 6.2 To maintain all clinical records using the Trust Integrated Electronic Service User Record (IESUR).
- 6.3 To adhere to NHS Connecting for Health Information Governance requirements.

7.**PROFESSIONAL RESPONSIBILITIES**

- 7.1 To maintain post-qualification training and registration in line with Continuing Professional Development guidelines set down by the BPS and HPC.
- 7.2 To act independently within appropriate professional guidelines.

- 7.3 To receive regular highly specialised supervision in common with good practice guidelines.

8. **ENVIRONMENTAL**

- 8.1 To be able to sit in a restricted position for a substantial proportion of the working time. For example, when conducting assessments and psychometric testing and therapy.
- 8.2 To be able to concentrate for long periods of time (up to seven hours per day) whilst carrying out intricate clinical assessments and interventions.
- 8.3 To work in a range of settings, and may be exposed frequently to hazards such as verbal and physical aggression and/or other highly distressing or emotional circumstances.