
JOB DESCRIPTION

POST TITLE:	Senior Mental Health Practitioner – Children in Care (Nursing, Speech and Language Therapist, Psychology, Family Therapist, Social Worker or other Allied Mental Health Practitioner)
BASE:	Wokingham Hospital with an expectation to work across East Berkshire
BAND:	6
LINE MANAGER:	CIC Clinical Lead specialist CAMHS CIC team
PROFESSIONAL ACCOUNTABILITY:	Appropriate professional lead within CAMHS

OUR VISION AND VALUES

Our **vision** is to **be a great place to get care, a great place to give care.**

Our values are:

- **Caring** for and about you is our top priority
- **Committed** to providing good quality, safe services
- working **Together** with you to develop innovative solutions

JOB SUMMARY: The Children in Care dedicated Mental Health Team has been established to ensure that children who are in care receive quicker access to mental health support. By working in partnership and sharing knowledge, we hope to effectively meet the needs of children and young people in care through providing evidenced based interventions that meet their need. The Senior Mental Health Practitioner must be able to demonstrate both experience of working with and a genuine interest in the health and wellbeing of Children in Care (CiC). Be well organised and have excellent communication and clinical leadership skills and be familiar with the demands and working environments of both Social Care and Health settings. Within this role you will be offering consultation, assessment, intervention and training within a multi-disciplinary context to children and young people presenting with complex, comorbid or high-risk mental health disorders.

Assessment: Clinicians will undertake a comprehensive assessment and formulation of clinical presentation and risk and make appropriate care plans for ongoing care. This will include assessing mental state, risk, and psychosocial factors, as well as being able to devise a Clinical Formulation from assessment.

Consultation: Clinicians will be able to provide advice, support and guidance to the social workers, foster carers and education teams supporting a young person's mental health; so that a systemic and trauma informed model of care can be provided

Short term Intervention: Clinicians will provide short-term intervention such as ongoing patient reviews, multi-agency consultation/liaison, and other relevant intervention to support young people and their families. Clinicians will be expected to contribute to, attend and, where appropriate, chair, multi-agency meetings including safeguarding and child protection meetings, to achieve positive outcomes for children and young people. Clinicians will work closely with other CAMHS Community teams, such as making onward referrals or working alongside them to meet the young person's needs.

Supervision: Clinicians will be required to receive clinical supervision and management supervision as defined in the Trust policy (Clinical and Management Supervision for all BHFT Staff (Clinical and Non-Clinical Staff), BHFT CCR097)).

Routine Outcome Measures (ROMS): Staff within all teams and pathways are required to use ROMS as routine with all young people to ensure service users are actively involved in decisions within their own treatment and for staff to evaluate their own effectiveness and development needs through individual supervision and to contribute to team and service evaluation and development.

Training and Development: With guidance and support clinicians will be expected to support, design, deliver and evaluate training packages that will improve knowledge, understanding and practice of supporting young people in care's mental health needs

RESPONSIBILITIES

1. Care delivery

- a) Be responsible for the effective delivery and quality of care standards for this service or for the delivery of specialist services across an organisational and geographical area.
- b) To maintain and develop relationships with professionals external to the area of service, children and young people and their families (where appropriate) within area of service/specialism.
- c) To be able to assess, interpret and diagnose and implement treatment of children and young people's conditions, developing, planning, implementing, and evaluating specialist packages of care, including the involvement of multi-agency input around the children and young people's needs.
- d) To formulate and implement plans for the formal treatment and/or management of a client's mental health problems, based upon an appropriate conceptual framework of the client's problems, and employing methods based upon evidence of efficacy as well as evidence generating, across the full range of care settings.
- e) To make appropriate judgments that best improve the treatment outcomes for the child, young person and their families' as well as improve resilience and recovery and which mitigates risk to themselves or others.
- f) To formulate and design interventions as part of the children and young people and their families' care plan, ensuring that clinical policies and procedures are followed correctly and risks inherent in any procedures are minimised.
- g) To ensure services are delivered in a manner that is appropriate, relevant and respectful to all community members, recognising the diversity of ethnicity, culture, belief, privilege and capacity of service users and carers.
- h) To provide specialist advice to other members of the service and agencies on the particular needs of children and young people and their families.
- i) The post holder is expected to adopt the principles of the Care Programme Approach (CPA) when assessing, planning and co-ordinating the care and medical treatment that a person requires.

2. Record keeping, information collection and communication

- a) Effectively manage complex and sensitive situations and condition related information regarding diagnosis and prognosis to children and young people and their families, other professionals, and external agencies, where there may be barriers to understanding or a hostile and antagonistic working environment.
- b) To be able to communicate reassuringly, finding ways of enabling the information to be understood and providing empathy and reassurance to specialist children and young people groups.
- c) To be responsible for the accurate maintenance of clinical record keeping and the required communication of individual patient care packages for the post holder's area of responsibility/specialism.
- d) To ensure all systems (electronic and hard copy), records, data and information (stored and transferred) are of high quality across the service which will withstand inspection of their effectiveness and appropriateness to support the delivery of safe services and compliance of Trust Business rules.
- e) To manage and maintain all electronic systems and data as required in the role, in particular RiO, service user outcomes and safeguarding systems.
- f) To be responsible for the accurate recording and transferring (to other services) of information relating to patients in receipt of care as determined by the Trusts operational policies or when directed by the team leader.

3. Leadership, Development & Supervision

- a) To apply up to date professional and other knowledge to ensure any options of care for individuals is evidenced based and informed by theoretical and practical learning and experience.

- b) To develop and facilitate, with other members of the service, clinical groups, training sessions and workshops as appropriate.
 - c) Maintain continuous professional development meeting professional requirements.
 - d) To measure personal, team and service goals and ensure they align to the wider Trust goals and strategic objectives.
 - e) To undertake Clinical Audits, research, and test different types of aids as necessary for own area of specialism.
- 4. Professional & Trust policies:** The post holder must comply with all national, statutory, legislative, professional and local policy. The post holder is responsible for policies in own specialist area / subdivision and should proactively contribute to improve local policy and any changes to improve service or protocols that impact on own service area as well as other professions.

GENERAL

1. This is a varied role where you'll be expected to undertake the range of responsibilities specified above, working together with your line manager and colleagues to ensure that the activities of this post make a real difference to our patients. Your line manager may ask you to undertake other reasonable duties to facilitate the smooth running of your service or team.
2. We are an equal opportunities employer and you'll be expected to role model equality of opportunity, live the values and always operate in accordance with our Equal Opportunities Policy.
3. Health and Safety at work is important to us and we would like you to role model the highest standards of behaviour and go above and beyond by adopting excellent practice where it links to the health and wellbeing of our colleagues. It is important that you cooperate with us to ensure that statutory and departmental safety regulations are adhered to.

BEHAVIOURS

In addition to the responsibilities and requirements outlined in this job description, you should refer to the associated and expected behaviours that are relevant to this role - your line manager will be able to provide you with this detail.

Our values define the behaviours we are all expected to display during the course of our work and they underpin our organisational recruitment, appraisal, reward and development processes.

LOCATION/MOBILITY

We may require you to work at or from a different work base or location from time to time, to meet service demands and deliver an operational service. Given the geographical nature of the Trust, you may be required to travel between Trust premises as part of your role.

We also may need to change your work base on a permanent basis and if this is the case, we will consult with you in line with our policies and procedures.

FLEXIBILITY

We may need to amend your job description and/or your duties from time to time in order that we can continue to provide the best possible service to our patients. It is important that you work with us to deliver our services, by complying with lawful and reasonable instructions, by adapting to new ways of working, and by attending training courses as requested from time to time.

CONTINUING PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

You'll be expected to attend and contribute to staff meetings and forums, supervision sessions, training courses, seminars and workshops, all of which will contribute to the development and enhancement of our current working practices.

You will also be expected to participate in all personal review meetings and to take responsibility for your own personal and professional development and the professional accountability for your role.

DATA PROTECTION ACT

We are all expected to be aware of the Data Protection Act and to follow the local Codes of Practice to ensure appropriate action is taken to safeguard confidential information.

HEALTH & SAFETY

We all have a responsibility for health and safety, risk assessment and workplace inspections, and you will be expected to take reasonable care for your own health and safety and that of others.

You will also be expected to co-operate with your colleagues to ensure that statutory regulations, policies, codes of practice and departmental safety procedures are adhered to, and to attend any training programmes that we consider to be relevant.

INFECTION CONTROL

The Health and Social Care Act 2008: (code of practice on the prevention and control of infections and related guidance) sets out responsibilities for NHS managers, Heads of departments, Clinical Leads and all staff to ensure patients are cared for in a clean and safe environment. Cleanliness and prudent antimicrobial stewardship (AMS) is essential to ensure that people who use health and social care services receive safe and effective care.

Prevention and appropriate management of infection is of paramount importance in the quality and safety of the care of patients and to the safety of staff and visitors. As a core element of the trust's clinical governance and risk programmes, all staff are required to be aware of their responsibilities and comply with infection prevention and control policies and guidelines.

CONFIDENTIALITY

We all have a responsibility to make sure that we don't disclose any information of a confidential nature relating to the services we provide or in respect of any service user, client or third party. This applies both during and after your employment.

You must not remove or copy any documents or tangible items including software which belong to the Trust or which contain any confidential information unless you have specific permission to do so. When you leave our employment, or if you are asked, you must return all documents and tangible items which are in your possession or are under your control, but which belong to us or contain or refer to any confidential information.

You should be aware that a breach of confidentiality may result in your dismissal and that, regardless of any disciplinary action that we may take, a breach of confidence could result in civil action for damages.

DATA QUALITY

We are all responsible for making sure that our data and electronic records are updated, accurate, relevant, reliable, and completed in line with our record keeping standards and policies.

CLINICAL GOVERNANCE

We aim to provide the highest standards of care. To help us achieve this aim, you are expected to follow acceptable working practices as defined in our policies and guidelines. You also have a personal responsibility to your colleagues and patients to keep yourself up to date with any changes to policies and to report any practice that you consider to be unacceptable through the appropriate channels.

ASYLUM & IMMIGRATION ACT 1996 AND AMENDMENTS

We need to make sure that we comply with the Asylum and Immigration Act 1996. To do this, we check the documentation of all applicants to confirm that they have the right to work in the UK. We won't offer employment to any applicant who does not have valid leave to remain and work in the UK or whose leave is subject to conditions which prevent them from taking up employment with us.

If your leave to remain and/or right to work status changes during the course of your employment, we will determine what impact this may have on our ability to continue employing you.

SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN AND VULNERABLE ADULTS

We all have a responsibility for safeguarding individuals who come into contact with our services, whether they are a child or young person, a person with Learning Disabilities or an older or vulnerable adult.

We adhere to the Berkshire Local Safeguarding Children Boards Child Protection Procedures, which places a duty of care and responsibility on us all to safeguard and promote the welfare of children.

SMOKE FREE

We operate a smoke free policy which means that smoking is not permitted on any of our sites. This also applies when you are travelling in vehicles (including owned and lease cars) whilst on official business, parked on our premises in privately owned vehicles, or transporting services users or visitors. We will not support taking additional breaks during the working day to smoke off site. Further information can be found in the Staff Smoke Free policy.

PERSON SPECIFICATION

CATEGORY	ASSESSMENT METHOD		
	Application Form Essential or Desirable	Interview Essential or Desirable	Selection Tool Application (A) Interview (I)
<p>Education/Qualifications/Training</p> <p>Recognised and relevant qualification as below:</p> <p>Registered Mental Health Nurse or Registered Social Worker or Occupational Therapist or Speech and Language Therapist or Registration with NMC or HCPC or other recognised professional body</p> <p>A supervisory qualification in the relevant professional discipline.</p>	<p>E</p> <p>E</p> <p>E</p> <p>E</p> <p>E</p> <p>D</p>		<p>A</p> <p>A</p> <p>A</p> <p>A</p> <p>A</p> <p>A</p>
<p>Previous Experience</p> <p>Experience of undertaking comprehensive assessment of mental health needs, developing care plans and offering appropriate support</p> <p>Experience of working with service users with high risk presentations and undertaking risk assessment and risk management plans.</p> <p>Experience of hard-to-reach diverse community groups and individuals with emerging complex needs, dual diagnoses, people with additional disabilities and safeguarding.</p> <p>Experience of working effectively in a multi-disciplinary team and multi-agency environment</p> <p>Experience of working within mental health settings supporting children, adolescents and their families.</p> <p>Experience of contributing to service improvement initiatives.</p>	<p>E</p> <p>E</p> <p>D</p> <p>E</p> <p>D</p> <p>D</p>		<p>A</p> <p>A&I</p> <p>A&I</p> <p>A&I</p> <p>A&I</p> <p>A&I</p>

<p>Knowledge and skills</p> <p>Knowledge and skill to assess acute mental health crisis, and deliberate self-harm at Getting Risk/Tier 3 levels.</p> <p>Demonstrates up to date knowledge of legislation and National strategies and requirements for CAMHS.</p> <p>Well-developed skills in the ability to communicate effectively, orally and in writing, complex, highly technical and/or clinically sensitive information to clients, their families, carers and other professional colleagues both within and outside the NHS.</p> <p>Skills in providing consultation to other professional and non-professional groups.</p> <p>Ability to take clinical responsibility for patient care and treatment.</p> <p>Ability to work to timescales and comfortably cope in pressurised situations, applying practical problem solving skills in everyday and complex situations</p> <p>Ability to work autonomously and effectively in a team, reprioritising work and that of others work to reflect changing needs.</p> <p>Competent IT skills and the ability to navigate around various systems and software packages (such as outlook, databases, e.g. RiO MS office and internet</p>	<p>D</p> <p>E</p> <p>E</p> <p>E</p> <p>E</p> <p>E</p> <p>E</p>		<p>A&I</p> <p>A&I</p> <p>A&I</p> <p>A&I</p> <p>A&I</p> <p>A&I</p> <p>A&I</p> <p>A&I</p>
<p>Additional Requirements</p> <p>Ability and willingness to work in a flexible way including working outside of normal hours to facilitate out of hours clinics as required.</p> <p>Able to maintain professional boundaries and conduct.</p> <p>Supportive approach towards colleagues and service users.</p> <p>Enthusiastic, self-motivated team player.</p> <p>Able to negotiate, be confident and assertive.</p>	<p>E</p> <p>E</p> <p>E</p> <p>E</p> <p>E</p>		<p>A&I</p> <p>A&I</p> <p>A&I</p> <p>A&I</p> <p>A&I</p>