

JOB DESCRIPTION – Dec 18

Job Title	YMCA School Therapist / Counsellor
Responsible to	Menu of Services Project Manager
Working relationships	YMCA C&P Staff & Personnel Administration Staff Schools – including Head Teachers Local authorities Other agencies
Job purpose	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• As a school therapist you will work in a therapeutic capacity with children & young people from 5 to 18 years of age• You will also have the opportunity to deliver non-therapeutic early intervention programmes such as group work, mentoring, family work and awareness workshops or assemblies. These include semi-structured, non-therapeutic Building Resilience Programmes utilising a semi-structured syllabus over a period of 6-8 weeks• In addition, appropriately experienced and competent staff can deliver health & well-being training and qualifications to either school staff or students as part of our training offer as well as well-being consultations with senior school staff as part of our whole school programmes.
Main Tasks	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Assess each referred child and young person as appropriate and liaise with schools regarding their needs• Carry out SDQ / CORE testing or other outcome and feedback measures at the start and end of intervention as advised by the service

- Provide the appropriate number of sessions as supported by the service based on the requirements of the school and young persons needs
- Appropriately identify and transition referrals between relevant programmes as necessary
- In the case of building resilience programmes: deliver one or more of the following as appropriate:
 - Group Work – a semi-structured scheme of work for up to 4 students on your own, or 8 students with another worker/staff member; and adapt to client need
 - Mentoring – 1to1 outcomes focused work for those that may struggle in a group
 - Family Work – working with individual parents or together to facilitate positive parenting focussed on addressing the child’s resilience needs.
- Offer evaluation forms to relevant stakeholders including key school staff, clients and parents as part of the organisations approach to 360 feedback
- Engage with relevant stakeholders, including schools and YMCA to provide updates on levels of engagement and review progress
- To complete paperwork as required to show progress made and impact of provision
- To monitor provision to ensure contracts are maintained appropriately and schools/ stakeholders are kept informed about what is required
- To promote other YMCA services where appropriate

- To maintain levels of confidentiality within the limitations of the Schools Safeguarding Policy
- To report Safeguarding concerns to the designated school Safeguarding officer and YMCA Protection from Abuse Officer in line with YMCA Protection from Abuse Policy
- To document all Protection from Abuse concerns

Benefits

- Continued professional development training opportunities will be supported
- Management support and induction
- Access to peer support
- Opportunities to be involved in additional programmes – e.g. teacher training, student qualifications, well-being consultations

Personal Specification

Experience	Essential	Desirable	Useful
Experience of working with children and young people aged 5-18 in a non-therapeutic environment		✓	
Experience of Play Therapy or counselling with children and young people aged between 5-18	✓		
Experience of working in wider mental health environments		✓	
Experience of working in schools		✓	
Experience in delivering group work or structured activities		✓	
Experience in delivering accredited training courses / qualifications		✓	
Experience of using outcome and feedback measures with young people	✓		
Experience of responding to safeguarding concerns	✓		
Skills and qualities	Essential	Desirable	Useful
Be committed and reliable	✓		
Have an understanding of Confidentiality and its limitations within a counselling environment	✓		
Be positive, honest and have a genuine approach with a non-judgemental attitude	✓		
Be able to show empathy and work in an ethical manner	✓		
Have excellent communication, helping and listening skills	✓		
Demonstrate a commitment to continued personal development	✓		
Qualifications	Essential	Desirable	Useful
Be registered with BACP, and/or PTUK, BAPT, NCS, IPSC, UKCP or equivalent having obtained a minimum of 120 hours of clinical experience	✓		
Be a qualified Counsellor or Therapist (minimum Level 4) - for Play Therapists have achieved the Certificate in Therapeutic Play	✓		

YMCA enables people to develop their full potential in mind, body and spirit. Inspired by, and faithful to, our Christian values, we create supportive, inclusive and energising communities, where young people can truly belong, contribute and thrive.

(junior role) or Diploma in Play Therapy			
Additional Play Therapy training/experience for ages 5-11 (essential for primary work)		✓	
Other	Essential	Desirable	Useful
Counsellors/therapists will be required to work on a self-employed basis. This includes covering their own expenses, including travel and Clinical Supervision costs.	✓		