



JOB DESCRIPTION

Job Title:	Occupational Therapist
Salary:	Witherslack Scale (Term time)
Locality:	Clinical Services
Responsible to:	Regional Director (Clinical) and Clinical Director
Liaison with:	Clinical MDT, Education and Residential Care Colleagues, Parents, Carers and External agencies.

Occupational Therapist- Job Summary

As an Occupational Therapist within Witherslack Group you will join a highly experienced Multidisciplinary Clinical Services Team comprising Psychologists, Speech and Language Therapists, Occupational Therapists and Creative/Talking Therapists.

You will be part of a regional clinical team working with children and young people to provide high quality assessment and intervention, identifying and addressing areas of need such as sensory, motor, perceptual or functional life skills. You will also be involved in the development of MDT therapeutic plans of support that will meet EHCP requirements and address identified needs to support access to learning and improve wellbeing.

Children and young people we live and learn with, can, at times be hard to reach and can exhibit challenging behaviours. As an Occupational Therapist you will develop child orientated ways of working to support engagement and develop relationships with the children in our schools and/or homes. We support and promote alternative ways of working that is individual to that child or young person.

You will act as a role model for other clinicians in line with the expectations of Witherslack Group behaviours and to educational staff.

Responsibilities:

- Use advanced specialist knowledge and levels of experience appropriately and effectively across a range of work practices which is underpinned by comprehensive and extensive theoretical knowledge and practical experience.

- Assess the motor, perceptual and sensory integration skills of the young people and to ascertain how any differences impact on their function and participation.
- Write reports based on your findings to support the young people, education and care staff and to inform annual reviews.
- Work with the young people to provide Occupational Therapy, as identified from assessment in line with the WG Three Waves Model of Intervention, including environmental, whole school interventions as well as 1:1 work with individual children, group work and whole class work, as part of the MDT.
- To undertake high quality assessments of children and young people and make recommendations about appropriate therapeutic interventions for each child or young person, in accordance with individual assessed needs.
- To provide line management and clinical supervision to allocated Therapies Assistants within the setting and to support Newly Qualified Occupational Therapists within the setting
- To work closely with children, young people and their staff to ensure a personalised plan of delivery.
- To participate in service and practice development.
- To identify training needs, develop and facilitate training sessions to staff and parents/carers.
- To prepare high-quality reports and quality assure reports.
- To keep accurate and contemporaneous online records following professional and Witherslack guidelines and in accordance with legal requirements for maintaining confidentiality and data protection.
- To complete administrative requirements in a timely manner. These include evidencing that you are meeting EHCP requirements, liaison and completion of MDT reports and updating WG-EHCP targets.
- To participate in the Group's Staff Development Programme
- To attend monthly, clinical and line management supervision. To complete progress reviews monthly in the first 6 months and then termly. Supervision and line management will be provided by a Senior Occupational Therapist who you will report directly to.

In addition:

- To actively engage in your own line management and clinical supervision.
- To actively engage in CPD.
- To maintain professional registration and memberships relevant to the profession.
- It is important that the post-holder is willing to work flexibly to meet the changing needs of the young people placed within our provision. There is an excellent support network for staff within the Clinical Team in addition to the support that is available on a day-to-day basis within the settings

The post holder will follow a programme of induction that supports new employees to develop their role in the Witherslack Group. Supervision will be provided on a regular basis by Senior Therapists from within the Clinical Services Team.

Continuing Professional Development is encouraged and appropriate training/ courses are identified through supervision.

It is important that the post holder is willing to work flexibly to meet the changing needs of the young people placed within our provision. There is an excellent support network for staff within the Clinical Services Team, in addition to the support that is available on a day-to-day basis within each of the settings

Safeguarding

This post is subject to an Enhanced Disclosure check.

Witherslack Group is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. As part of the selection process we will undertake checks to ensure that you do not pose of risk of harm to children and young people.

The post-holder will be expected to contribute to safeguarding children and young people and promoting their welfare of children in accordance with the agreed Child Protection Policy for the setting. Any issues or concerns are reported to their Designated Safeguarding Lead or any Deputy Safeguarding Lead. In the Children's homes, where the Designated Safeguarding Lead or the deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead is not available, and then it would be reported to the senior on duty.

Occupational Therapist Person Specification

	Essential	Desirable	Method of Assessment
Qualifications	Recognised Course of Study that fulfils the requirements for membership of HCPC	Member of RCOT	Application Form
Skills, Knowledge and Experience	Good organisational skills and an ability to work independently & demonstrate initiative Experience of working with people with a range of needs including developmental trauma; neurodiversity and Special Educational Needs Ability to work as part of a multidisciplinary team	Awareness of mental health issues Experience of working in schools and/or Care Homes Experience of group work with young people Experience delivering training to parents and/or professionals Qualification in or knowledge of Sensory Integration	Application Form Reference Interview
Personal Qualities	Excellent communication skills Good organisational skills, time management and ability to work under pressure. Ability to travel between locations	Ability to work as a member of a team Readiness to seek help & support to manage professional issues and problems High level of motivation and commitment Full UK driving licence	Reference Interview