

Job Description

Job Title	Children's Wellbeing Practitioner
Reporting to	Mental Health Support Team Leader
Service Area	Mental Health Support Team
Location	London Borough of Croydon
Contract Type	Fixed Term from 13.01.25 until 19.12.25
	Full-Time 35 hours per week
Salary	£31081 per annum
Annual Leave	28 days paid leave plus Bank Holidays

Job Purpose

This is a training role within the Children and Young Mental Health programme (CYP-MH). The post-holder will be employed by either Croydon Drop In or Off The Record delivering, under supervision, high-quality, brief outcome focused evidence-based interventions and guided self-help for children and young people experiencing mild to moderate mental health difficulties. The training and service experience will equip the post holder with the necessary knowledge, attitude and capabilities to operate effectively in an inclusive, value driven service. The post holder will attend all university-based taught and Onsite Protected Learning Time required by the education provider, as specified within the agreed national curriculum and work in the service for the remaining days of the week using your newly developed skills.

Overview of Role:

Croydon Drop In and Off The Record have two exciting opportunities to join our Mental Health Support Teams in 2025. The Children and Young People's Mental Health programme (CYP-MH) is a service transformation programme delivered by the NHS and partners that aims to improve existing children and young people's mental health services (CYP-MHs) working in the community. Children's Wellbeing Practitioner training will benefit from being integrated fully within CDI and OTR. The post-holders will be undertaking the Postgraduate Diploma in Children's Wellbeing Practice at Kings College London and carrying out clinical work in our face-to-face services to complement your studies and use your skills.

Key accountabilities:

- To study and successfully complete the PG Diploma CWP qualification
- To put into practice the manual-based skills in our face-to-face frontline Mental Health Support Team services in Primary & Secondary Schools
- To fully participate in all activities and responsibilities as an employee of either Croydon Drop In or Off The Record

Main Duties and Responsibilities of the role:

1. Working within Croydon Drop In or Off The Record to assess and deliver, under supervision, outcome focused, evidence-based interventions to children and young people

- experiencing mild to moderate mental health challenges.
- 2. Working in partnership, support children, young people experiencing mild to moderate mental health challenges and their families in the self-management of presenting issues and in the development of plans for the intervention and agreed outcomes.
- **3.** Support and empower children, young people and families to make informed choices about the intervention.
- **4.** Operate at all times from an inclusive values base, which recognises and respects diversity.
- 5. Accept referrals within agreed national and local protocols.
- 6. Undertake accurate assessment of risk to self and others.
- **7.** Adhere to the CDI & OTR referral protocols. Under supervision, signpost unsuitable referrals to the relevant service as necessary.
- **8.** Through close case management and supervision, escalate cases where the level of need becomes beyond scope, or more severe ensuring adherence to other relevant elements of service delivery.
- **9.** Provide a range of information and support for evidence based psychological treatments, primarily guided self-help. This work may be face-to-face, by telephone or via other media.
- 10. Adhere to an agreed activity contract relating to the overall number of children and young people contacts offered, and sessions carried out per week in order to improve timely access and minimise waiting times.
- 11. Attend multi-disciplinary meetings relating to referrals or to CYP, where appropriate.
- **12.** Keep coherent records of all activity in line with CDI & OTR protocols and use these records and outcome data to inform decision making. Complete all requirements relating to data collection.
- **13.** Assess and integrate issues relating to transitions, education and training/employment into the overall therapeutic process.
- **14.** Work within a collaborative approach involving a range of relevant others when indicated.
- **15.** Work in collaboration with children, young people and communities to enhance and widen access.

Training & Supervision

- **16.** Attend and fulfil all the requirements of the training element of the post including practical, academic and practice-based assessments.
- **17.** As well as attendance at the University for training, fulfil private study requirements to enhance learning and prepare assignments for examination, for at least one day a week.
- **18.** Apply learning from the training programme to practice.

- **19.** Receive practice tutoring from educational providers in relation to course work to meet the required standards.
- **20.** Prepare and present case load information to supervisors within the service on an agreed and scheduled basis, in order to ensure safe practice and the governance obligations of the trainee, supervisor and the service are delivered.
- **21.** Respond to and implement supervision suggestions by supervisors in practice.
- **22.** Engage in and respond to personal development supervision to improve competences and practice.

Professional

- 23. Ensure the maintenance of standards of practice according to the employer and any regulating bodies and keep up-to-date on new recommendations/guidelines set by the relevant departments.
- 24. Work within our Confidentiality Policy to ensure that confidentiality is protected at all times.
- **25.** Ensure clear objectives are identified, discussed and reviewed with supervisor and senior colleagues on a regular basis as part of continuing professional development.
- **26.** Participate in individual performance review and respond to agreed objectives.
- **27.** Keep all records up to date in relation to Continuous Professional Development and ensure personal development plans maintains up to date specialist knowledge of latest theoretical and service delivery models/developments.
- **28.** Attend relevant trainings/conferences/workshops in line with identified professional objectives.

General

- **29.** To keep accurate records in accordance with the monitoring & evaluation demands of the role and our services and to liaise closely with administrators. Support the collection of data and facilitate data flow to the Workforce Development team.
- **30.** Contribute to the development of best practice within the service.
- **31.** Ensure a comprehensive understanding of the relevant safeguarding legislation, guidance and best practice.
- **32.** Maintain up-to date knowledge of legislation, national and local policies and procedures in relation to children and young people's mental health
- **33.** All employees have a responsibility and a legal obligation to ensure that information processed is kept accurate, confidential, secure and in line with the Data Protection Act (1998) and Security and Confidentiality Policies.
- **34.** It is the responsibility of all staff that they do not abuse their official position for personal gain, to seek advantage of further private business or other interests in the course of their official duties.

- **35.** This Job Description does not provide an exhaustive list of duties and may be reviewed in conjunction with the post holder in light of service development.
- **36.** It is the responsibility of all staff to minimise OTR/CDI's environmental impact by recycling wherever possible, switching off lights, computer monitors and equipment when not in use, minimising water wastage and reporting faults promptly
- **37.** We operate a no smoking policy on our sites and in any educational settings where the post holder may be working

Person Specification

Criteria		
Skills	Essential	Desirable
Ability to communicate effectively and sensitively with children, young people and their carers		
Ability to study as a self-motivated learner and implement training with appropriate support		
Ability to personally manage a sensitive, traumatic and potentially emotionally challenging caseload		
Ability to adapt communication style according to the varying needs of children & young people	√	
Speak a second language		√
Ability to maintain a reflective stance in emotive/challenging interactions with young people and their carers		
Ability to effectively use clinical supervision to reflect on practice		
Ability to work on own initiative and as part of a team		
Strong organisational skills and ability to use monitoring & evaluation measures		
Strong written and proven IT skills		
Capability to complete academic work at postgraduate diploma level, including IELTS or equivalent to the appropriate level for students with English as a foreign language (Band D) https://www.kcl.ac.uk/study/postgraduate/apply/entry-requirements/english-language.aspx	√	
Experience & Knowledge		
Professional experience working with children, young people and their families Experience of working in mental health or related services		√
A complete understanding of Equality, Inclusivity & Diversity and an overt commitment to providing inclusive, anti-racist, culturally competent service delivery		
Worked in a service where agreed targets are in place to demonstrate outcomes		√

Experience of working with safeguarding issues, knowledge/understanding of issues related to safeguarding children and vulnerable adults		
Experience of multi-agency working	√	
Experience of working within a professional setting concerned with the emotional well-being and development of young people	√	
Demonstrates an appreciation of the range of factors that can impact on a child's developmental and emotional well-being	√	
Demonstrates understanding of children & adolescent services in statutory & voluntary sectors and the need for trauma-informed, attachment aware approach		✓
Demonstrates knowledge of theory in relation to early child-development		✓
Qualifications:		
Undergraduate degree, upper second class or above, in Psychology or related subject (e.g., Psychology, Education, Childhood development, Social Care/Youth Work) Including any subject with further training or experience in a relevant field (e.g. Teaching/TA; Learning Support; HCA; Youth Work; Counselling) Or relevant professional experience in CYP Mental Health/Education/Mentorship (to be considered on a case-by-case basis that could include training in nursing, social work, occupational therapy, counselling or within a specific psychological therapy) Or other relevant postgraduate degree or postgraduate qualification	✓ ✓	
General		
A non-judgemental, empathic and person-centred approach	√	
A commitment to equality of opportunity, non-discriminatory practice and the aims & purposes of CDI & OTR		
Full, enhanced and current satisfactory DBS disclosure for the role	✓	