

CYP PT Therapy: Infant and Early Years Practitioner Person Specification

Qualifications	Essential	Desirable
	- Minimum second-class Bachelor's Degree or equivalent standard in a relevant subject (e.g. psychology, social work etc); OR - Applicants who do not fulfil the academic criteria but have relevant professional experience are still encouraged to apply and will be considered on a case-by-case basis.	A training in a related profession (e.g. psychology, nursing, Early Years Teacher; social-work, occupational therapy, speech and language therapy, other psychotherapy, counselling).
Skills / Competencies	Essential	Desirable
	- Ability to communicate effectively and sensitively with young children and their carers; - Ability to adapt communication style according to the varying needs of families; - Ability to personally manage sensitive and potentially emotionally distressing caseload material; - Ability to reflect on own practice (in clinical supervision and practice tutor groups with course peers); - Ability to follow policy and clinical governance procedures and make proposals for change; - Ability to maintain accurate records; - Ability to complete academic work at postgraduate level and balance the academic demands of the course with clinical placement demands; - Demonstrates adaptability and able to work with diverse communities;	- Ability to adopt an observational stance, particularly relating to babies and very young children; - Understanding of evidence-based practice and the ability to demonstrate how this influences clinical practice with children aged 0-5; - Ability to reflect on connection of own experiences of parenting/being parented.

	• Good time management and organisational abilities and ability to work autonomously where required; • Effective oral and written communication skills; • IT/Computer literate; • Able to accommodate travel demands associated with the role. • Ability to observe, assess, and think about children's emotional wellbeing and relational needs within their family and caregiving context.	
Knowledge	Essential	Desirable
	• Knowledge of the importance of the 0-5 years on development and mental wellbeing and understanding of the range of factors that can impact 0-5 developmental and emotional wellbeing; • Understanding of early child development theory and of 0-5 services (e.g. health visiting, early help, and holistic approaches); • Knowledge of safeguarding issues relating to very young children. • Knowledge of the importance of the parent-child relationship and early relational development in supporting emotional wellbeing across the 0-5 period.	• Knowledge and understanding of theory in relation to early child development. • Knowledge of the impact of trauma, parental mental health, domestic abuse, substance misuse, or adversity on infant development and caregiving relationships.
Experience	Essential	Desirable
	• 2 or more years of experience working with the development and wellbeing of children and young children aged 0-5 and their families. • Experience of children aged 0-5 and their development in a personal, voluntary or observational capacity. • Experience of multi-agency working and liaising across internal & external agencies. • Experience of observing and thinking about children's	• Experience of working within a professional setting concerned with the mental health, development and wellbeing of infants aged 0-5; • Experience of working with safeguarding issues.

	emotional wellbeing, relationships, and caregiving contexts across the 0-5 age range.	
Personal Qualities	Essential	Desirable
	• Strong desire to work with children aged 0-5; • Strong interest in developing knowledge of assessment and intervention of the emotional wellbeing of children in their first 60 months of life; • Motivated to learn and be challenged; • Capacity to work well in teams.	• Experience of working with children age 0-5 and their families (such as, a family support team, preschool, nursery, under 5s CAMHS) • Experience of working within a professional setting concerned with the mental health, development and wellbeing of infants age 0-5.