

Oakley College

www.oakley.ac.uk

Job Description and Person Specification

Occupational Therapist

Reporting to: Head of College
Pay Range: £25k- £35k (dependent on experience), pro rata
Hours: 1 day per week, term time only.
Contract type Initially a 1-year contract with review to extend.

Context

Oakley College is a registered charity and an exciting development based in Tonbridge, set up to meet the needs of young adults age 18-25 with learning difficulties or disabilities (LLDD), all of whom have Education, Health and Care (EHC) Plans.

Our aim is to complement and work alongside existing providers in the area, to ensure that the needs and aspirations of all our young people can be met locally.

Learning programmes include:

- A programme of study and work-related learning and experience that will lead to further vocational training, internships/apprenticeships and employment.
- A programme of study providing a further 1, 2 or 3 years for young adults to continue to develop their personal life and independent living skills so that they can contribute to society in a number of ways and live an independent or semi-independent life.
- A vocational programme providing a further 1, 2 or 3 years for young adults to continue to develop their personal life and independent living skills so that they can contribute to society in a number of ways and live an independent life in a supported environment.
- A bespoke programme of study for learners that require a total communication approach and may use AAC. This is a multi-sensory curriculum to enable the learners to communicate their needs in a supported environment.

We are looking to recruit an Occupational Therapist who can enhance our learners' college experience by supporting them to develop transferrable physical and developmental skills that enable them to be as prepared as possible for adulthood.

Job Summary

- To promote the highest standards of learning, development and achievement in a supportive, stimulating and orderly environment to engage young adults in their learning and planning for their own future.
- To prepare our learners for life beyond education by ensuring they are equipped with the practical skills they require to actively participate within their communities and maintain their independence.
- To encourage and enthuse all learners to achieve the best they can and become as independent, skilled and confident as possible.
- Promote an inclusive ethos in which learners develop independence, and value themselves, others and their environment, and prepare for adult life and citizenship by working with others.
- Promote the enjoyment of learning to support attainment, successes and achievements of all learners.
- Support all members of the College community to enable them to be confident, motivated to succeed and develop life, independence and skills for employment.
- Work in partnership with parents, carers, and representatives from other key organisations to provide an accountable, high quality service, committed to safeguarding young adults, that will have a positive, sustainable impact for individuals and partner organisations locally, and regionally.

Job Description

As an active and effective member of our therapy and College team you will:

1. Develop and implement a strategy across the College which outlines Oakley College's commitment to develop the practical skills and physical development of our learners in the context of their preparation for adulthood.
2. Liaise with College staff and other therapy services to encourage and enthuse all learners to enable them to make good or better progress and become skilled, knowledgeable, and independent as possible so that they become successful learners, confident individuals and responsible, contributing citizens.
3. Use knowledge of the learners' special needs, advice from the other therapists, College aims and policies, schemes of work and curriculum requirements for the relevant curriculum areas to contribute to learning objectives and positive learning experiences.
4. Oversee and ensure the provision within EHC Plans is taking place within each learner's learning programme and the impact is demonstrated against their outcomes relating to Preparation for Adulthood.
5. Link with Oakley College's Careers Lead and our range of employers to ensure that placements are successful following good interpretation and understanding of learners' needs.
6. Liaise with the teaching and learning staff to communicate progress and areas of development to ensure learning programmes are consistently tailored to meet individual learner needs.
7. Provide information for or participate, where required, in the Annual Review process.
8. Deploy positive and targeted support for all learners who have difficulty in self-care, work and/or leisure tasks.
9. Develop and manage positive and productive relationships with all learners, staff, carers, parents, Trustees and the wider community.
10. Use and develop opportunities for learning outside the classroom.
11. Provide supervision and support for teaching staff to ensure learning programmes are differentiated to reflect learners' needs.
12. Be available to support parents/carers to practise skills at home to enable a consistent and sustainable approach to learning and development.
13. Create and manage resources to assist and promote learning including working with other adults, using ICT and the environment beyond the College in preparation for adult life.
14. Promote positive behaviour, setting consistent, clear expectations for maintaining appropriate behaviour, managing any challenging or difficult behaviour from learners, minimising any negative impact on the learning of others, and/or on the learners themselves.
15. Regularly monitor, evaluate, record and report the progress of learners in relation to their prior attainment, using agreed College systems and to use this to provide constructive on-going feedback to learners to guide their learning and develop their individual capacity to know, understand, value and build on their own strengths and skills.
16. Contribute to target setting for further learning and modification of planning.
17. Participate in, and engage with, a range of College based and external INSET and professional development activities, including performance management feedback, and sharing best practice and outcomes with colleagues and to continuously improve own teaching performance.
18. Implement all College procedures & policies consistently, and contribute to their evaluation and further development, supporting the College in achieving its aims, vision and priorities as set out in the College Development Plan.

