 **Wrotham School**

SCHOOL PSYCHOTHERAPIST or COUNSELLOR

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| **Reports to:** | Headteacher / Deputy Headteacher / SENDCO |
| **Salary/Grade:** | **Kent Range 9** |
| **Hours/Weeks** | **18 Hours Per Week, Term Time only** |
| **Job Purpose:** | To work with the SEND and Safeguarding Teams to support students with emotional or behavioural difficulties. |
| **KEY ACCOUNTABILITIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES:**  As an adolescent psychotherapist or counsellor, you will need to:   * carefully observe children and young people and respond to what they might be communicating through their behaviour and play * provide assessment and treatment of adolescents as individuals or in a group * tailor your approach to the individual child and work in an age-appropriate way. * provide short-term and long-term interventions with children, young people and/or parents, from a few sessions to regular appointments over time * work alongside other professionals in planning how best to help a child and the child's family, for example in schools, hospitals, children's services, child protection agencies and CAMHS * offer training, consultation and therapy/counselling to other colleagues at the school * keep up to date with developments in theory and research and undertake continuing professional development (CPD).   **Experience**  You will need substantial experience of working with children and adolescents in a social care, health or education setting.  As a child and adolescent psychotherapist (or counsellor), you will offer psychoanalytic treatment (or relevant counselling) to children and young people with emotional and/or behavioral difficulties, including:   * depression * anxiety * development delay * phobias * aggression * gender dysphoria * consequences of child abuse * self-harming * learning difficulties and disabilities * eating disorders * psychosomatic disorders.   You may see a child individually, in a group with other children, or with parents or other family members. You may also see parents or carers without the child being present.  You will need a minimum of two years' work with children of varying ages or families in a voluntary or professional capacity. Furthermore, you will need to be registered with a recognised professional body such as UKCP or BACP.  **Skills**  You'll need to have:   * sensitivity, empathy and a genuine interest in the emotional problems faced by children, adolescents and their families * excellent communications skills * the ability to cope with the extremes of human emotion, ambiguity and vulnerability * the ability to work on your own and as part of a multidisciplinary team * resilience, to withstand being overwhelmed or burdened by your clients' problems * the capacity to differentiate your personal feelings and emotions from those of the child or adolescent * confidence to help children and adolescents explore difficult and painful aspects of their life.   **Safeguarding**   * Attend CIN/CP reviews as required. * CP – paperwork * Undertake safeguarding training as required * Referrals as per School procedures.   **Professional Development**   * Participate in the schools’ Performance Management Programme. * Undertake appropriate professional development.   **Staff Meetings**   * Participate in meetings and Professional Development activities at the school as required.   **Health and Safety**   * To ensure the health and safety of staff and students when in the (subject) area. * To be responsible for carrying out risk assessments in relation to health and safety.   **Additional Duties**   * As a member of staff working in a school setting to have a duty to help keep young people safe and to protect them from sexual, physical and emotional harm and to take reasonable steps to ensure the safety and well-being of staff. * To undertake duties as a member of staff in a school that works in partnership with other organisations, to contribute to the development and sharing of good practice into partnerships with other schools and relevant bodies. This may include undertaking duties and work in other schools and at other locations. * To carry out such other duties which may be required from time to time, within the grading of the post. | |
| **Professional Behaviour**   * To be professional, friendly and respectful towards all colleagues, and to address any concerns through proper channels. * To be professional, friendly, fair and firm with students, demonstrating the sort of politeness and respectfulness that we wish them to emulate. * To be friendly, helpful and welcoming to parent/carers and others visiting or making contact with the school. * To provide a good role model for students and staff. * To support and uphold the aims, values and ethos of the school. * To develop a relationship with students, which is professional, firm, fair, caring and friendly, and based upon mutual respect. * To maintain an appropriate and professional distance with students in more informal situations. * Use the school’s positive behaviour policy to deal with student behaviour in a manner which is   appropriate to the context.   * To celebrate and praise the achievements of students. * To deal with students in a manner which conveys mutual respect. * Not to behave towards students in a manner, which is aggressive, intimidating or demeaning in any way. * Be smartly and professionally dressed. | |
| **Miscellaneous**   * To continue personal development as agreed at performance review meetings. * To engage actively in the performance review process. * To play a full part in the life of the school community, to support its distinctive aim and ethos and to encourage staff and students to follow this example. * To comply with the school’s Health and Safety policy and undertake risk assessments as appropriate. * To comply with safeguarding policies at all times * To show a record of excellent attendance and punctuality. * The duties of this post could vary from time to time as a result of new legislation, changes in technology or policy changes. Appropriate training will be given to enable the post holder to undertake this new/varied work.   ***Wrotham School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff to share this commitment.***  It is impossible to define clearly the exact nature of any job in a school. Therefore, the purpose of this job description is to outline the main duties that have to be fulfilled. When there is an emergency or in times of difficulty, absence or sickness, it is necessary to take on a variety of tasks and responsibilities regardless of job description under the direction of the Headteacher or other nominated person. | |