

GROUPWORK FACILITATOR – ROLE DESCRIPTION

Blue Smile's mission is to improve the mental wellbeing and prospects of Cambridgeshire children through arts-based therapies. The charity has over 50 clinical workers, working in teams and as individuals in schools in Cambridgeshire, giving vital therapy and mentoring to children.

Safeguarding is central to all Blue Smile activities, and we recognise that the welfare of all children, young people and adults at risk, is paramount and that all have equal rights of protection. We have a duty of care when they are in our charge, and we will do everything we can to provide a safe and caring environment whilst they attend our activities.

The Groupwork Facilitator is contracted by Blue Smile to deliver a range of psychoeducational in schools in Cambridgeshire and the surrounding areas including Peterborough at both primary and secondary (year 7) level.

Each group has a Lead Facilitator who will lead on the delivery of the group in school and a Co-Facilitator who will work alongside the Lead Facilitator in delivery of the group.

ROLE AND RESPONSIBILITIES

- Deliver Blue Smile's suite of psychoeducational groups in schools using the provided session plans
- Ensure appropriate set-up and pack-down of the room allocated by the school
- Maintain and store accurate and up to date records preserving appropriate confidentiality and security in line with Blue Smile policies
- Report safeguarding or child protection concerns immediately to the school's designated person for child protection and to Blue Smile in keeping with Blue Smile's Safeguarding Children and Adults policy
- Liaise with the Service Coordinator/Clinical Services Administrator to arrange collection or delivery of the appropriate resources for each group

In addition, the Lead Facilitator will:

- Review and accept referrals for children or young people attending the group
- Ensure that the correct consents are in place for all children or young people attending the group
- Liaise with the school on the progress of the group, ensuring any issues are raised in a timely fashion and successfully resolved
- Ensure accurate completion and submission of the relevant evaluation measures

PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS

It is the responsibility of the Groupwork Facilitator to:

- Adhere to Blue Smile's policies, procedures, and Practice Standards and those of the allocated school
- Abide by BACP's Ethical Framework for the Counselling Professions
- Keep up to date with opportunities for continuing professional development

PERSON SPECIFICATION

Essential:

- a recognised qualification at Level 4 or above in Counselling or Therapy with Children and Young People, Education or Family work (group lead)
- at least one year's post-qualification experience or equivalent as a practising counsellor or therapist or in a Teaching/TA role with children and young people or significant direct volunteer/work experience with children and young people
- the ability to work independently within the school setting
- an enhanced DBS check with children's barred list, this can be arranged by Blue Smile
- an ability to keep accurate and confidential records
- good interpersonal skills with the ability to effectively liaise with school staff
- an understanding of working with vulnerable and disadvantaged children and young people
- knowledge of best practice and an ability to apply this to the role
- an understanding of equal opportunities and an open approach
- the ability to work within Blue Smile's policies, procedures, and Practice Standards and those of the allocated school

Desirable:

- experience of working in a school
- previous groupwork experience

This is a general role outline and may be amended as reasonable by mutual discussion to support Blue Smile's development and growth.