



Job Description for Mental Health Lead

Job Title: Mental Health Lead

Reporting to: Area Manager

Direct Reports:

Place2Be is the leading children's mental health charity providing in-school support and expert professional development to improve the emotional wellbeing of children and young people, families, teachers and school staff.

Place2Be provides children's mental health services in over 600 primary and secondary schools, reaching a total school population of over 350,000 pupils.

We continue to pilot, trial and explore new ways in which we can develop our practice as well as share learning, expertise and findings from the robust evidence and evaluation we gather. HRH The Duchess of Cambridge is our Royal Patron and Place2Be is one of the founding charity partners of Heads Together. We also work collaboratively with a range of charities and expert organisations to leverage best-in-class knowledge and expertise to inform, develop and improve outcomes for the children, families and schools we support.

The Mental Health Lead is based in Future Youth Zone, Barking and Dagenham and part of a pilot project running until March 2022, aimed at developing our practise in a community setting.

The Mental Health Lead provides a range of services in the youth centre to build resilience early in life through a range of universal and targeted interventions:

- *therapeutic and psychoeducational group work*
- *one to one counselling*
- *Brief structured one to one work*
- *Digital platforms in partnership with Healios, Kooth and SHOUT Crisis textline*
- *Consultation and training of youth centre staff*

All of these support children and young people's ability to engage in school, community and family life and also support the mental health of the youth centre.

We ask our staff team to share our core values of perseverance, integrity, compassion and creativity, and to have the skills and patience to support some of the UK's most vulnerable children and families.

Overall Purpose:

To effectively manage all aspects of the Place2Be service in partnership with the Youth Zone, ensuring that children and young people are provided with appropriate therapeutic and emotional support.

Key Responsibilities:

1. Ensure high quality clinical practice and delivery of a full and effective service in Place2Be

- To work with the Senior Management Team at the Youth Zone to embed the mental health strategy and policy within the youth centre.
- To take a lead role in identifying group and/or individual training needs and to facilitate youth centre staff training, providing input at training days and on topics and best practice relating to children's mental health.
- To build and sustain capacity to enable good mental health support within the youth work system.
- Offer consultancy to youth centre staff (Place2Think) and parents (Parent Partnership).
- Conduct full Assessment and Formulation process for children and young people referred to the service and allocate them to a suitable targeted intervention where appropriate.
- Undertake one-to-one clinical work with children and/or young people.
- Plan and deliver the drop-in service Place2Talk.
- Plan and deliver universal and targeted group work in consultation with the youth centre and the line manager
- Identify and discuss potential referrals with youth centre staff keeping the Line Manager and Clinical Supervisor informed
- Work with the youth centre link to make use of and shape the universal and targeted interventions to support individuals and groups within the school community in accordance with the Clinical Delivery Model
- Ensure all clinical work is fully reviewed and outcomes evaluated, in supervision in order to improve practice
- Reflect in supervision on how to work with all aspects of difference in the therapy room increasing cultural competence and ensuring anti-oppressive practice

2. Establish positive, active and effective relationships with the school and Place2Be management

- Represent and be the ambassador for Place2Be in the youth centre
- Build positive relationships with youth centre staff in order to understand and respond to the needs of the community
- Build relationships with colleagues in the Area, in the Region and at the local office
- Actively participate in Area team meetings to share best practice and develop clinical thinking, knowledge and learning

3. Safeguarding and Child Protection

- Identify and report any safeguarding and child protection concerns following Place2Be's policies and procedures
- Identify and report any safeguarding concerns about any vulnerable adults following Place2Be's policies and procedures

- When required, make recommendations and consult with the youth service for referral onto external service
- Be pro-active in reporting safeguarding issues and concerns, to the youth centre and line management, in accordance with Place2Be policy

4. Reporting evaluating and data entry

- Provide termly reports in accordance with Place2Be guidelines and in conjunction with your Line Manager, undertake an annual review of the youth centre service and produce a report to be shared with the youth centre
- Use qualitative and quantitative outcomes data to inform practice and improve impact
- Accountable for inputting data on Place2Be's School Services System relating to all activities and interventions in the school in a timely and accurate manner
- Comply with Place2Be data entry requirements and GDPR
- Make good use of online management systems, such as diary planning etc.

5. Values

- Live the Place2Be values of Perseverance, Integrity, Compassion and Creativity
- Ensure equal access to the Place2Be Service
- Be pro-active in promoting dialogue and support around issues of difference and discrimination

6. Diversity and Inclusion

- A dedicated commitment to diversity and inclusion and equality of opportunity

Person Specification

The person specification outlines the main criteria for the post and short listing will be based on the following criteria. Please ensure that your supporting statement clearly shows how you meet the criteria using experience gained either in paid or voluntary work.

Criteria	Criteria E= Essential D= Desirable	Measured by A=Application I=interview
Qualifications		
1. Holds a recognised clinical qualification (in counselling, psychotherapy, clinical psychology, Art/Dance/Drama/Music Therapy)	E	A
2. Holds a recognised membership of a relevant professional body (BACP / UKCP/NCS/BPS)	E	A
Qualities		
3. Highly organised	E	A
4. Supportive, energetic and passionate about Place2Be's mission and core values	E	I
Experience		
5. Demonstrates knowledge of the youth work environment	E	I
6. Post qualified experience in a clinical role with experience and understanding of working with children, young people and youth centres	E	A/I
7. Ability to deliver training in mental health for children, young people and adults	E	I
8. Experience of safeguarding child protection procedures and policy and commitment to safeguarding of children and vulnerable adults	E	I
Knowledge and Skills		
9. Understands how youth centres work in partnership with clinical practitioners and the importance of these relationship	E	I

10. Shows understanding and awareness of Place2Be's equal opportunities policy and a personal commitment to equality of opportunity and anti – discriminatory practice in service delivery	E	I
11. Has a working understanding of the BACP Ethical Framework in practice	E	A
Clinical		
12. Has experience of conducting rigorous clinical assessment, formulation and review of casework	D	A/I
13. Demonstrates knowledge and understanding of the importance of embedding Assessment and Formulation in clinical practice	E	A/I
14. Extensive experience of working with diverse communities and of reflecting in supervision and with peers on how to work with all aspects of difference in the therapy room	E	I
15. Takes an active approach to self-development and demonstrates understanding of up to date research and emerging best practice in children and young people's mental health services	E	I
16. Is willing to undertake work with parents, carers and school staff and to hold a clinical caseload with children or young people	E	I
Safeguarding and child protection		
17. Experience of being pro-active in reporting safeguarding issues and concerns with regards to children and vulnerable adults, to youth centre and line management, in accordance with Place2Be policy	E	I
18. Continues to keep up to date with safeguarding policy and developments	E	A
Management and Supervision		
19. Has an understanding of how to run an effective youth centre based mental health project and managing and accounting for overall caseload	E	I
20. Demonstrates a commitment to continually improve quality of service provision in all areas	E	I
21. Can develop project plans into sensible, timely actions that meet the expectations of the youth centre and more senior colleagues; understands the need for efficiency and timelines in delivery	E	I

22. Displays effective, well-organised management of their youth centre project	E	I
23. Is able to make use of their own Line Management and Clinical Supervision to improve their own practice as a therapist	E	A/I
Relationships (Internal and External)		
24. Is able to build relationships through effective communication with all stakeholders within the youth centre and wider Place2Be team	E	I
25. Understands the youth centre support/pastoral care system	D	I
26. Takes account of different cultural styles and values when working with colleagues and external stakeholders	E	A/I

Reporting and Evaluation		
---------------------------------	--	--

27. Develops and exhibits clear understanding of systems for reporting	E	I
28. Is able to gather an appropriate range of data before making decisions about service delivery and use data and analysis to produce useful reports on a regular and ad hoc basis	E	I

Communications		
-----------------------	--	--

29. Communicates effectively and appropriately with Area Manager, particularly highlighting any concerns or issues that require resolution	E	I
30. Ability to communicate complex issues clearly, accurately and concisely verbally and in writing	E	A/I
31. Shares information, good practice and skills with their Area team and wider organisation when required	E	I
32. Excellent presentation skills	E	I

Diversity and Inclusion		
--------------------------------	--	--

33. Sound understanding and awareness of Place2Be's equal opportunities policy and a personal commitment to equality of opportunity and anti – discriminatory practice in service delivery	E	A/I
--	---	-----

IT		
34. Demonstrates competency in using Microsoft Office, data management systems and Internet	E	A/I
35. Is fluent in data entry and the use of data to evaluate clinical practice	D	A