**Place2Be Postgraduate Diploma in Counselling and Psychotherapy for Children in Schools**

**Experiential Group Facilitator**

**Overall purpose of the role:**

To facilitate two first and second year student personal development and process groups.

The Experiential Group is not group therapy, nor is it a formalised teaching session, it has the purpose of providing a space for students to explore the emotional, psychological and physical experience of being a student on the course. This involves reflection on oneself in relation to a variety of processes which might include; academic work and teaching processes; the dynamics of being in the group, experience of being on placement, the student’s own personal and social history, larger social, cultural and ethnic themes and ultimately the student’s clinical work with a child in the room.

The Experiential Group is viewed as an essential learning forum to explore oneself in relationship. The forum is provided for the learner to develop their reflective capacities, making connections between one’s thoughts, feelings, behaviours and words in the present moment. It is viewed as an opportunity to examine and evaluate the impact of others on yourself and your impact on others allowing you to make considered choices as a person and developing therapist.

The Experiential Group is not an assessed part of the course and is facilitated by Group Facilitators separate from the core programme and tutor team. Any safeguarding concerns and/or concerns around safe and ethical practice would need to be shared with the Programme Leader.

Each group attends 1.5 hours Fortnightly from the start of the academic year 11th Sept to June 26th.

*The sessions are on Thursdays 14:30-16:00 at 175 St John St, London EC1V 4LW. Please note below the weeks where there is also a pre-meeting with the Programme Leader and other group facilitator at 14:00.*

**The role of the Experiential Group Facilitator includes but is not restricted to:**

* Supporting the exploration of underlying dynamics within the Group experience
* Offering students a safe enough and boundaried space to explore their growing understanding of themselves in-relation to others
* Encouraging reflection on the students’ process of becoming qualified child therapists
* Working with issues of sameness and difference, naming themes and patterns

Experiential Group Facilitators are expected to liaise regularly with tutors and other group facilitator regarding arising themes and concerns in the group. They will undertake shared supervision fortnightly to reflect on the group and their experiences.

In addition to their own professional membership organisation’s framework (if different), as Place2Be is an organisational member of the BACP, Facilitators are required to abide by the BACP Ethical Framework; contracting with the group whereby any safeguarding concerns and/or concerns around safe and ethical practice would need to be shared with the Programme Leader.

**You must have:**

* A recognised professional qualification in group therapy \*
* Hold membership of a professional association relevant to counselling or psychotherapy, (e.g. BACP, UKCP, BAPT, HPC, NCS) \*
* Previous experience of facilitating personal development/experiential groups for adults \*
* Good working knowledge of the BACP Ethical Framework for the Counselling Professions and can demonstrate practical experience of applying this framework
* A knowledge and interest in a range of therapeutic and counselling approaches
* Practical experience of working with issues of difference and diversity. Can demonstrate a personal commitment to implementing equal opportunities

*\* Indicates the minimum criteria needed to be considered for a guaranteed interview under the disability confident scheme.*