



Role Description – Counsellor on Placement

Reporting to:	School Project Manager
Location:	Nationwide
Days:	Commitment to one full day per week for a minimum of one academic year.
Hours:	Working day is normally 08:30 – 16:30 but this may vary depending on placement. Half days may be available.

Overall purpose of the role: To provide emotional and therapeutic support to children and young people aged 4-14 in Place2Be partner schools. As an organisation that has adapted the BACP ethical framework of good practice in Counselling and Psychotherapy, counsellors working within the organisation are dedicated to improving the mental health and well-being of the children they work with.

Specifics of the role:

- You will work with a maximum client base of three children (per one day placement).
- Place2Be will provide weekly supervision with a School Project Manager.
- There is a potential for therapeutic group work with children in the second year of placement.
- Contribute to the School Project Manager's report writing and case discussions.
- Take advantage of the professional support offered to them by Place2Be in terms of weekly supervision, mandatory training course and any other additional training provided on specific topics on working therapeutically with children.
- Adhere to the organisation's confidentiality and information sharing policy at all times.
- Training will be provided in respect of Place2Be's Safeguarding and Child Protection policies.

This role description is a general outline of the duties and responsibilities and may be amended as Place2Be develops and the role grows. The post holder may be required to undertake other duties as may be reasonably required from time to time.

Person Specification – Counsellor on Placement

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.

Key criteria required to be successful in this role

Qualifications:

You will be a fully qualified Counsellor, Therapist or Clinical Psychologist or studying towards one of these professions at the following levels:

- Diploma in Counselling (Level 4 or above). If you are in your first year you will have completed a full academic year Certificate Course in Counselling or the equivalent of 9 - 12 months.
- Degree, MSc or MA in Counselling, Counselling Psychology or Psychotherapy - if you are in your first year you will have relevant experience of direct work with children.

Experience:

- Counselling training must have, or have had, a therapeutic and personal development component rather than being purely theoretical or research based (as with Distance Learning courses). Examples of this include: role play, creative work with art, TRIAD techniques.
- Preferably will have experience of working with children and young people aged 4 - 14. This experience could be gained through volunteering, caring for children as a parent or carer or through a background in a caring profession such as nursing, social work or as a health visitor.
- Understanding of the characteristics of a therapeutic relationship with a child, ideally with experience or knowledge of humanistic or psychodynamic approaches.

Behaviours:

- Willingness to make a minimum commitment to practice in school one day per week (term time only) for one academic year.
- Identifies with Place2Be's mission, vision and is able to demonstrate Place2Be values.
- Emotionally robust and able to demonstrate self-awareness and self-reflection; ideally will have undertaken personal therapy (one-to-one or group therapy) to enhance this.
- An understanding of and awareness of Place2Be's equal opportunities policy and a personal commitment to equality of opportunity and anti-discriminatory practice in service delivery.