**OUTLINE JOB DESCRIPTION**

**Senior Practitioner Educational Psychologist**

**Salary range: £45,588 - £50,398**

**Responsible to:** Managing Director/Principal Educational Psychologist

**Job Purpose:**

To contribute to the strategic and operational development of Catalyst Psychology, working in partnership with the Principal Educational Psychologist and Company Directors:

* providing a high quality and effective educational psychology service to children and young people, their families, schools and communities, where this service is commissioned from Catalyst Psychology Community Interest Company;
* providing professional leadership for the team of Catalyst psychologists in an area of developed specialism, working in partnership with the Principal Educational Psychologist, Senior Educational Psychologist and Strategic Director;
* contributing to the development, research and evaluation programme of Catalyst Psychology, including assisting in making applications for funding to support this programme.

**Main Tasks:**

1. **Specialist responsibilities**
2. **To contribute to strategy and development within Catalyst Psychology, with a particular focus on an identified area of developed specialism:**
* liaising and working effectively with schools and other stakeholders to ensure the highest levels of service delivery and accountability;
* contributing, in partnership with the Principal Educational Psychologist, Senior Educational Psychologist and Strategic Director to the development of policy and delivery of service;
* contributing to the development of impact and evaluation measures;
* providing professional supervision and peer consultation to members of the team;
* providing professional supervision to educational psychologists in training;
* helping to ensure the Company remains up to date with National developments that affect the delivery of educational psychology, with a particular focus on developments relevant to the area of specialist responsibility;
* actively promoting an equal opportunities ethos within the Service;
* assisting in ensuring awareness and implementation of safeguarding and child protection procedures;
1. **To engage in operational, strategic planning and research/evaluation:**
	* participating as a member of the Catalyst Leadership Group;
	* working within a commissioning framework for research and development, to advise as appropriate on methodologies for research and contribute to funding applications;
	* contributing to the development and delivery of training at a variety of levels within schools and other organisations;
	* engaging in multi-disciplinary and interagency activities as appropriate to progress the above within the context of creating effective children’s services more generally;
	* working within a framework that promotes active partnership with children and young people and their parents/carers, to participate in decision-making processes in relation to effective provision for children with special and/or additional educational needs.
2. **General professional responsibilities:**
3. **To develop and deliver psychological consultation in schools and the wider community:**
* providing a consultation-led psychological service to schools and other settings;
* planning, developing and managing workload in schools and other settings via a clear commissioning process;
* promoting models of applied psychology and good practice that will facilitate the optimal psychological development of children and young people;
* working in partnership with service users to support schools and settings in maximising effectiveness, raising standards and planning appropriate interventions at school and individual levels;
* working collaboratively in association with local providers in support of schools and settings in their development of inclusive educational practice;
* contributing to multi-agency work, including the provision of specialist advice and guidance within agreed processes;
1. **To undertake direct work with pupils with additional needs/barriers to learning, and their teachers and families:**
* working within a framework of consultation and liaison with schools and other partners, to engage in direct work with individuals, groups or organisations that will support the learning and psychological development of children and young people experiencing barriers to learning and social and emotional development;
* working within a consultative framework, to provide a psychological perspective to assist in developing understanding of the needs of individual children and young people;
* using validated models of psychological assessment and intervention, based on effective hypothesis generation, to effect positive change;
* where commissioned to do so, providing Statutory Advice as part of the statutory assessment of special educational needs to the commissioning Local Authority, in line with regulations and requirements set out in legislation and in the SEN Code of Practice. This may include appropriate contribution and presentation to SENDIST procedures, to provide expert psychological opinion, where required;
* providing, as appropriate, and where commissioned to do so, psychological input to child protection and safeguarding procedures.
1. **To challenge and support schools as part of school improvement:**
* working in partnership with colleagues, to engage in effective psychologically based interventions in schools;
* promoting and facilitating the development of inclusive practice and its links with school and setting improvement, to improve educational outcomes for all pupils, especially those who are vulnerable and/or have additional educational needs.
1. **To deliver training/continuing professional development:**
* preparing and delivering training and CPD activities to schools and other partners in order to promote the application of psychology in a wide variety of settings.
1. **To develop the Company:**
* contributing to effective methods of data collection, collation and analysis in line with Company guidance on information management and governance;
* contributing to the systematic monitoring and evaluation of company performance, collecting and providing relevant information as required;
* developing a specialist expertise, in line with Company priorities;
* participating in supervision, induction and personal performance and development processes;
* undertaking further professional development in accordance with the Health and Care Professions Council and British Psychological Society requirements;
* ensuring that any concerns in relation to safeguarding and/or child protection are reported to the designated person in line with the Company safeguarding policy. It is an expectation of the post that Safeguarding and Child Protection training will be undertaken.
1. **Other requirements:**
* To participate fully in supporting the principles and practice of the organisation’s Equality and Diversity Policy, ensuring that equal opportunity issues are taken into account in all service delivery and employment matters.
* To take reasonable care for the health and safety of yourself and other persons who may be affected by your acts or omissions and to comply with all health and safety legislation as appropriate
* As a term of your employment you may be required to undertake such other duties as may be reasonably required of you, commensurate with your grade or general level of responsibility within the organisation.

**NOTE**

This job description is designed to help the post holder understand the duties and responsibilities of the post. It may be amended in consultation with the post holder.

Reviewed: September 2016