

JOB DESCRIPTION

Job Title: Qualified Hospice Play Leader

Responsible To: Head of Care

JOB SUMMARY

- To use theoretical Knowledge and evidence based practice to assess, plan, implement and evaluate therapeutic play programmes within Zoe's Place contributing towards the holistic care of our children.
- To promote an awareness of the emotional needs of children and the importance of play within the care team.
- To work in partnership with parents, siblings, carers and care staff, encouraging positive play experiences.

CORE RESPONSIBILITIES

Clinical/Therapeutic

- To ensure that all children receive the appropriate play and stimulation related to their emotional / developmental needs and to achieve developmental goals.
- To ensure that babies /children who are referred to the service 0-5 years have an individual assessment, appropriate for their age and condition and receive age appropriate play activities.
- To assess, plan, implement and evaluate comprehensive play programmes for individual babies/children receiving day care and respite care. To include preparation for invasive and non-invasive

procedures, distraction therapy and procedural play as part of the overall care of the child.

- To monitor and evaluate the effectiveness of therapeutic interventions using reflective practice to achieve best outcomes.
- To liaise with the Nurse in charge and care team on shift daily.
- To facilitate and coordinate daily play, craft and sensory activities, including detailed plan for school holiday times.
- To create a warm, welcoming, caring and safe environment that is child friendly.
- To work in partnership with families, encouraging their involvement.
- To work with the siblings, encourage their involvement with activities such as sibling group work or outings.
- To understand own professional limitations and recognise the need to refer to other members of the multidisciplinary team.
- Organise sibling and family days and maintain a log of the activities.

Communication

- To report to the nurse in charge and or the Head of Care any Safeguarding issues about children and families, and document accordingly in child's notes.
- To advise the Care team on play and communication with children.
- To establish effective communication, both verbal and written with all members of the care team.
- To liaise, develop and support projects and recreational activities organised by the Hospice.
- To meet with line manager on a regular basis for guidance surrounding work practices and objectives set during appraisals.

Documentation

- To be able to use Word, email and Hospice database applications.
- To ensure that up to date written play and individual records and activity data are maintained and stored appropriately in accordance with professional and Hospice standards.
- To adhere to Hospice policies, procedures and guidelines, especially Health and Safety, Equal Opportunities, Safeguarding and issues to the Child Act and children rights.

Responsibilities for resources

- To ensure that all toys and play facilities are cleaned, maintained safely and sorted appropriately according to the hospice Health and Safety/Infection Control policies.
- To inform line manager of any gaps in resources by following the wish list procedure.

Clinical Governance

- To report and contribute to the Clinical Governance Framework.
- To assist with the setting, monitoring and maintaining and audit of standards.

Training staff & students

- To contribute to the teaching of staff, students and other health care professionals within formal and informal settings , the value of play in the Hospice and the role of the play leader.
-

Professional development

- To maintain own development and education; by attending meetings and study days related to the speciality by arrangement of the Head of Care.
- To participate in discussions and comment upon new developments related to field of practice.

- To apply theoretical knowledge and understanding to professional practice.
- To attend hospice mandatory and statutory study days as directed.
- To participate in group supervision.

This job description is not a definitive or exhaustive list of responsibilities but identifies the key responsibilities and tasks of the post holder. The specific objectives of the post holder will be subject to review as part of the individual performance process.

Person Specification

Qualified Play Leader

Education

- Child care qualification either degree level or NNEB (NVQ3)

Professional

- 3-5 years' experience in child care settings
- Experience / Knowledge of different cultures and ethnic groups.
- Experience of working within a team
- Knowledge/experience relating to consent, confidentiality, and safeguarding children.
- Experience working with babies and children with special needs.
- Knowledge of current practice.
- Theoretical knowledge and understanding of therapeutic play and child development.
- Understanding of Clinical Governance.
- Ability to reflect and critically appraise own performance.
- Documented evidence of Continuing Professional Development

Personal

- Excellent interpersonal and supportive skills.
- Highly motivated, able to use initiative independently and prioritise own workload.
- Be a self starter.
- Sensitive/ empathic to children and families accessing the Hospice
- Able to plan, implement and evaluate play programmes.
- Ability to work with individuals and groups of children/young people
- A full understanding and ability to apply preparation, distraction therapy and play skills.

- Effective verbal and written communication skills.
- Experience teaching, training, assessing and supervising students of all levels.
- Presentation skills.
- Word processing and internet skills.