

PERSON CENTRED SCHOOL COUNSELLOR - Birmingham

Actual Salary:	£9613.50 per annum (optional pension scheme available)
Hours:	13 hours per week – term time only contract (38 weeks). Paid for 43.5 weeks per year (inclusive of holiday leave). Holidays not to be taken during term time.
Location:	Monday 8.45am-3.15pm at a Secondary School in B13 postcode Tuesday 8.45am-3.15pm at Secondary School in B21 postcode
Reporting to:	Chief Executive
Responsible for:	Delivering One to One Counselling to Children and Young People Aged 11-18 within the school setting
Contract:	From September 2023 for Academic year 2023/24 (in the first instance)

Open Door Counselling is a BACP Accredited Service and a Registered Charity, established in 1967.

Since this time we have offered high quality, well respected, compassionate, person centred counselling to children, young people and adults across the City and beyond. We are passionate about enabling our clients to explore their thoughts, feelings and emotions to achieve personal growth and development, to create long term and sustainable change..

An exciting opportunity has arisen for a Qualified School Counsellor to work as part of our team, delivering counselling to children and young people within schools.

The post holder will be required to deliver one to one (face to face) counselling to children and young people aged 11-18, within the school setting (term time only contract). Clients will be experiencing a whole range of mental health difficulties including, emotional distress, depression, anxiety, difficulties with relationships, low self esteem and working with those who self harm and/or have suicidal thoughts/feelings.

Alongside the counselling the post holder will be required to work alongside the staff team to ensure an overall package of care for clients, including sharing safeguarding concerns.

We are looking for a qualified, motivated, compassionate, empathic, sensitive and experienced counsellor, with a passion for making a difference and someone who is able to work within a team as well as independently. The post holder will be required to work in line with both the agencies policies and procedures as well as the schools, including safeguarding policies and procedures.

Applicants are required to have a Graduate Diploma or a Degree in therapeutic counselling (Person Centred or Integrative) and have a minimum of 2 years post qualifying experience of working as a Child and Young Persons Person Centred/Integrative Counsellor within a school and/or mental health setting. Counsellors will ideally be BACP Accredited, if not they must be working towards this and are a Registered Member with BACP.

The post holder will be based at 2 Secondary Schools in Birmingham (postcodes above).

The post holder will be required to uphold BACP's Ethical Framework and work in line with the Person Centred model, offering clients the core conditions. No other modalities of counselling are to be used within the school counselling provision.

All successful candidates will be required to attend, complete and pass all Mandatory Training prior to taking up their position.

Open Door will offer support to the successful applicant in respect of their professional development and supervision will be given in line with BACP requirements.

Our application process will test your attitudes and behaviours, as well as your knowledge and counselling skills.

Disclosure and Barring Service Check

This post is subject to the Rehabilitation of Offenders Act (Exceptions Order) 1975 and as such it will be necessary for a submission for Disclosure to be made to the Disclosure and Barring Service (formerly known as CRB) to check for any previous criminal convictions. Recruitment will be in line with Safer Recruitment procedures.

For an informal discussion about the position please contact Carmel on 07702 415419 or email: carmel@opendoorcounselling.org.uk

How to apply:

Please send with a covering letter a full CV outlining qualifications and work history/experience, including names of two referees (one at least most recent professional) and whether you hold a DBS on the update system.

The covering letter should outline the skills and personal / professional qualities you would bring to the role, why you want to work with the Person Centred approach and what you have gained from your professional counselling work.

PLEASE Note : do not apply if you are unable at work at the above locations/days/times.

Closing Date : ASAP

Job Description – Person Centred Counsellor:

You will be responsible for :

- delivering one to one, person centred counselling to children and young people aged 11-18, within a school environment who are experiencing emotional distress
- delivering a safe, professional and accessible face to face counselling service
- contributing to the development of best practice within the service.
- Embedding yourself within the school pastoral provision
- undertaking client work in line with the Person Centred Model (not using any other modalities) and upholding the Core Conditions of empathy, congruence and non judgemental
- establish and implement clear and appropriate ‘contracts’ with clients, for example number of sessions and parameters of confidentiality
- ensuring clients are appropriately discharged and where appropriate, in consultation with school lead/supervisor/clinical lead ensuring onwards referrals / sign posting is made to ensure best outcomes of clients
- identifying and raising safeguarding concerns and appropriately sharing these with school Designated Lead/supervisor/clinical lead
- the promotion of safeguarding and welfare of children/young people/vulnerable adults
- performing all duties in line with relevant compliance, governance, legal and contractual requirements and internal policies and procedures (for example Safeguarding Procedures, DNA Policy)
- liaising with, and working in partnership with other organisations involved in the care of the child/young person, for example GPs, CAMHS, Childrens Services)
- ensuring you are aware of the limitations of your role and counselling and recommending onward referrals where appropriate
- adhering to BACP’s Ethical Framework
- maintaining high quality, accurate clinical records and complete all paperwork in line with policies and procedures, for example evaluation tools
- Maintaining up-to-date knowledge of legislation, national and local policies and ensure continuing professional development and maintaining up to date CPD Records
- attending and participating in supervision and line management in line with BACP and organisational guidelines
- participating in any team meetings or mandatory training

Person Specification

	Essential Criteria	Desirable Criteria
Training and Qualifications	Graduate Diploma or Degree in therapeutic counselling (Person Centred / Integrative)	
	BACP Registered Member	
	Evidence of Continuing Professional Development	
	Willingness to undertake Continuing Professional Development	
		Up to date Safeguarding Children Training
		Working towards BACP Accreditation
		BACP Accredited Counsellor
Experience	Minimum of 3 years post qualifying experience of delivering counselling to children and young people (12-25) within a school and/or mental health setting	
	Extensive experience of using the Person Centred /Integrative Model of counselling with children and young people	
	Extensive experience of working with clients experiencing a range of issues	
	Evidence of partnership working with a variety of agencies and service providers	
		Working within a Third Sector
		Experience of working within diverse communities

		and within a multicultural setting
Knowledge and Skills	Knowledge of the Person Centred model of therapy	
	Ability to be self-reflective, whilst working with clients; in own personal and professional development; and in supervision	
	Regard for others and respect for individual rights of autonomy and confidentiality	
	Ability to use clinical supervision and personal development positively and effectively	
	Up to date knowledge of professional issues relating to counselling	
	Understanding and knowledge of Safeguarding Policies and Procedures	
Other	Ability to work as part of a team as well as independently	
	Successful completion of Mandatory Training prior to commencing post	
	Willingness to be flexible in approach and respond to the needs of the service	
	Computer literate	
	Ability to work under pressure	
	High level of enthusiasm and motivation	