

JOB DESCRIPTION

GENERAL INFORMATION

Job title:	Highly Specialist Paediatric Physiotherapist
Band:	Band 7
Department:	Paediatric Physiotherapy
Location:	Cedar House, St Michaels Site or venue appropriate to child
Responsible to:	Service Manager, Specialist Children's Services
Accountable to:	Operational Lead and Clinical Lead Physiotherapist
RBAC code/url:	
CRB checks:	DBS enhanced

Note: DBS (Disclosure Barring Service) checks are required for any staff that have regular contact with patients in the course of their normal duties.

Job summary

The Specialist Children's Division is a highly experienced and Professional multi-disciplinary provision delivering Therapeutic services for children with the London borough of Enfield.

The services currently comprise of: Physiotherapy, Occupational Therapy, Speech and language therapy, Dietetics, Complex Needs and Palliative Care Nursing and Specialist Family support. The service works closely with other disciplines within the Child Development Team and Primary Care Team (Health Visiting, School Nursing and Safe guarding services) to provide services across the borough.

The service also works closely with the Local Authority (in particular Joint service for children with Disabilities and Special Education Needs Department) including Schools in the provision of a joined up Health, Education and Social Care provision.

The Physiotherapy service is an established Musculoskeletal (0-14 years) and Neurodisability (0-19 years) service which provides specialised Physiotherapy assessment and intervention to children with varying needs in community settings, special schools, clinic and the CDC.

The band 7 physiotherapist will have a mixed caseload consisting of children of all ages.

MAIN TASKS AND RESPONSIBILITIES:

Clinical

To provide specialist assessment for children aged 0-18, who may have complex presentation, to determine relevant clinical picture and specific treatment indicated, working as an autonomous practitioner

To provide specialist advice and work closely with members of the multidisciplinary team, including Paediatricians, Orthopaedic Consultants, GPs, SLT, OT, Nurses, Social care professionals, Educational professionals and other services.

To educate families and carers regarding their child's specific physiotherapy management including exercise programmes, targeted activities, positioning advice and physical activity recommendations.

To work closely with Wheelchair services, Orthotics department and other specialist equipment agencies, Voluntary agencies and other professional groups to ensure physiotherapy treatment is fully integrated into patient care programmes.

To be responsible for the appropriate physiotherapy treatment of an identified group of children, with a wide variety of conditions, including children with severe physical and/or cognitive impairment, some of whom may have complex social and psychological needs

To formulate individualised physiotherapy management and treatment plans using clinical reasoning skills and utilizing a wide range of specialist treatment approaches.

To be skilled in both verbal and non-verbal communication with children of all ages with varying levels of cognition, and who have a range of physical and psychological barriers to understanding.

To be skilled in communicating with parents and carers, from all cultural and social backgrounds, who may be distressed as a result of initial diagnosis. To act as a frontline source of highly complex information regarding diagnosis and the ongoing management of a child with tact and empathy.

To analyse and interpret the impact on the patient and their physiotherapy treatment of diagnoses/treatment plans from other disciplines. This will involve the understanding and interpretation of complex medical and educational reports and assessments.

To use highly specialized handling skills and manual physiotherapeutic techniques during assessment and treatment of children, some with complex disabilities and movement disorders.

To make complex decisions and appropriate judgments as a frontline practitioner to interpret situations that may require child protection action.

To work to locally and nationally agreed standards set by the Chartered Society of Physiotherapy and the Association of Paediatric Chartered Physiotherapists.

To be aware of and follow NICE guidance relevant to conditions of childhood.

To assess children for a variety of highly specialist equipment and recommend its purchase by health and education. To be responsible for its safe set up, adjustment and competent use of all physiotherapy equipment by parents, carers and educational staff.

To demonstrate a sound understanding of risk management and to undertake risk assessments involved in the manual handling of the children during physiotherapy management.

Professional

To have a high level of professional and clinical knowledge acquired through a recognized physiotherapy qualification leading to state registration with the Health and Care Professionals Council and developed through post graduate experience and specialist training

To comply with all trust policies and the Health and Safety at Work Act including adherence to the Universal Precautions and Infection Control measures, and to attend fire, resuscitation, child protection, manual handling and other mandatory training as required.

To keep up to date with current research and developments in practice in order to maintain a high level of evidence based practice and continued professional development in accordance with the Health and Care Professional Council guidelines.

To participate in staff appraisal scheme, taking responsibility for setting and implementing own goals within own personal development plan and to participate in regular supervision sessions with a band 7 physiotherapist from the team.

Service development/management

To be responsible for monitoring and developing individual high standards of patient care. To participate in group discussion and suggest possible changes to service delivery and policies within the paediatric team and implement where necessary.

To attend a variety of specialized external courses and feedback information to the department as part of inservice training or to inform service provision.

To undertake evaluation of personal practice through outcome measures and participate in audit to make recommendations for changes within the service.

To be an active member of the inservice training programme by the attendance and delivery of presentations at staff meetings and training sessions.

Organisational

To plan, organise and prioritise the ongoing and constantly changing physiotherapy management of a diverse caseload, assessing and treating children in a variety of clinical and non-clinical settings.

To manage an independent day-to-day diary. Planning and organising clinics, school and home visits, often in coordination with other specialised health professionals and adapting to constant changes associated with patient compliance, urgent patient referrals and staff absences.

To coordinate parents, education staff and therapy assistants to best facilitate the delivery of treatment programmes, use of equipment and manual handling specific to individual children often doing this challenging social environments.

To select the most appropriate venue for the treatment of children to ensure optimal delivery of service, ease for service users and efficient time management

To maintain an accurate and evaluative record keeping system using POMR (problem orientated medical records) format and in accordance with departmental standards in order to maintain a high level of care and legal evidence of practice

To write high quality, concise and informative physiotherapy reports, discharge summaries and EHCP advice.

To attend TAF (team around the family), professional and children protection proceedings, demonstrating the ability to provide accurate and objective information, which may be used as evidence in legal cases and require attendance at court proceedings.

Values and Behaviours

The post holder is required to uphold and model the trust values: be positive, show respect, be compassionate and work together.

Environment

Category	Description	Frequency
Working conditions	<p>Whilst working with patients the jobholder is exposed to unpleasant working conditions. This may involve children and babies vomiting, coping with excessive dribbling and drooling especially in school situations</p> <p>The job holder also comes into contact with sputum, which may be infected, when carrying out chest physiotherapy</p>	<p>Frequent</p> <p>Occasional</p>
Physical effort	Daily manual handling of equipment and patients involving frequent episodes of moderate physical effort.	Frequent
Mental effort	<p>The job holder carries out frequent episodes of intense concentration whilst assessing and treating children with complex diagnoses, adapting interactions and responding to children and young people appropriately.</p> <p>The job holder is required to frequently cope with unpredictable interruptions, involving telephone calls and requests from patients, carers and other members of staff which involve the jobholder having to switch between several activities whilst still maintaining concentration on their original task.</p>	Frequent
Emotional effort	<p>The job holder is regularly exposed to distressing and emotional circumstances involving working with families and children coping with difficult diagnoses (including terminal and life limiting conditions)</p> <p>Interactions with children and families are prolonged and frequently cover many years. The therapist needs to use their skills to inform families and help them take on treatment advice and activity programmes.</p>	Frequent

