# POST: Clinical Psychologist

# LOCATION: To be confirmed

**REPORTS TO: Consultant Clinical Neuropsychologist/Director**

**ACCOUNTABLE TO: Director**

1. **JOB PURPOSE**
   1. To provide a high quality specialist clinical psychology service to children and adults with disabilities.
   2. To provide specialist psychological assessment and therapy to adults and children.
   3. Provide advice and consultation on clients’ psychological care to non-psychologist colleagues and non-professional carers.
   4. To supervise trainees and qualified practitioners as agreed.
   5. To contribute to service development within the organisation.
   6. To work autonomously within professional guidelines and the overall framework of the organisations policies and procedures.
   7. Utilise research skills for audit, policy and service development and research within the organisation.

**MAIN DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES**

1. **CLINICAL**
   1. To provide specialist psychological assessments of adults and children with disabilities based upon the appropriate use, interpretation and integration of complex psychological data from a variety of sources including psychological and neuropsychological tests, self report scales, direct and indirect structured observations and semi-structured interviews with clients, family members and others involved in the clients care.
   2. To formulate and implement plans for the formal psychological therapy and/or other interventions relevant to the clients’ needs, based on an appropriate conceptual framework of the client’s problems and employing current evidence –based best practice.
   3. To provide consultation to other practitioners on how an individuals’ psychological needs should be addressed.
   4. To be responsible for implementing a range of psychological therapeutic and rehabilitation interventions, drawing on a range of psychological models and employing a range of modalities (individual, family and group) adapted and tailored to the needs of the individual.
   5. To be responsible for evaluating treatment plans, adjusting and refining psychological formulations drawing upon different models according to the clients’ response to treatment.
   6. To exercise autonomous professional judgement and responsibility for the assessment, therapy or intervention process and discharge of clients.
   7. To provide specialist psychological advice, guidance and consultation to other professionals contributing directly to clients’ formulation, diagnosis and treatment plan.
   8. To promote and support the application of psychological models and approaches to the understanding and care of clients, through the provision of advice and consultation and the dissemination of psychological research and theory.
   9. To undertake risk assessment and risk management for individual clients in accordance with service guidelines. To advise multi-professional colleagues on the psychological aspects of risk assessment and management.
   10. Where appropriate to act as a care coordinator, taking responsibility for initiating planning and review of care plans including clients, their carers, referring agents and others involved in the network of care.
   11. To communicate in a highly skilled and sensitive manner, sensitive and complex information concerning the assessment, formulation and treatment plans of clients under their care.
2. **TEACHING, TRAINING AND SUPERVISION**
   1. To participate in regular professional supervision from a senior clinical psychologist.
   2. To apply skills in the area of post-graduate teaching, training and supervision and to provide supervision to other staff’s psychological work as required.
   3. To provide specialist professional and clinical supervision of trainee and assistant psychologists and other practitioners as appropriate.
   4. To contribute to the pre-and post qualification teaching of clinical psychology, where requested. To undertake assessment of learning and competence and provide reports to training bodies as required.
   5. To provide advice, consultation and training to staff working with the organisations client group, including those who work for other agencies.
3. **RESEARCH AND EVALUATION**
   1. To utilise theory, evidence-based literature and research to support evidence-based practice.
   2. To undertake appropriate research and provided research advice to other staff within the organisation undertaking research.
   3. To undertake project management, including complex audit and service evaluation, with colleagues within the service to contribute to service development.
   4. To initiate and conduct research relevant to the field and contribute to organisational research projects as required.
4. **MANAGEMENT, RECRUITMENT, POLICY AND SERVICE DEVELOPMENT**
   1. To contribute as required to the development, evaluation and monitoring of the organisations operational policies and procedures through the deployment of professional skills in research, service evaluation and audit.
   2. To manage the workloads of assistant, trainee clinical psychologists and clinical psychologists, within the framework of the organisations policies and procedures.
   3. To be involved, as appropriate, in the short listing and interviewing of assistant/graduate psychologists and other applicants to posts within the service.
5. **RESEARCH AND SERVICE EVALUATION**
   1. To ensure the development maintenance and dissemination of the highest professional standards of practice, through active participation in internal and external CPD training and development programmes, in consultation with the postholder’s professional and service managers.
   2. To contribute to the development and articulation of best practice in clinical psychology, taking part in regular professional supervision and appraisal and maintaining an active engagement with current evidence-based developments in the field of clinical psychology and related disciplines.
   3. To maintain the highest standards of clinical record keeping, including electronic data entry and recording, report writing and the responsible exercise of professional self-governance in accordance with professional codes of practice of the British Psychological Society and the organisations policies and procedures.
   4. To comply with the organisations policies and procedures at all times.
   5. To contribute to the culture of sound clinical governance.
   6. To maintain up to date knowledge of legislation, national and local policies in relation to the client group.
   7. To maintain and protect client confidentiality at all times.
   8. To undertake the travelling requirements of the post and ensure that a suitable alternative is available if your own car is off the road.
   9. To report sickness to your line manager in accordance with the Headwise Sickness Absence Policy.
   10. To carry out such other duties and responsibilities as may reasonably be required from time to time, consistent with the service objectives and level of responsibility of the post.
6. **CARE FOR THE CARERS**
   1. It is fully understood by Headwise that this position may be challenging and at times stressful. In consequence, Headwise actively promote a culture of recognition that the carers must also be cared for. Staff are encouraged to seek the advice, assistance and support of colleagues and senior managers in trying to achieve goals and resolve difficulties or anxieties arising from the execution of their duties.
7. **HEALTH AND SAFETY**
   1. All staff have a general duty to take reasonable care for the health and safety of themselves and other persons who may be affected by their acts or omissions. All safety rules, regulations and codes of practice relating to the work area should be observed.