

Whoopsadaisy Pavilion, Preston Park Brighton, BN1 6HN

Telephone: +441273554178
Registered Charity Number: 1083024

Whoopsadaisy - Job Opportunity

Occupational Therapist
(equivalent to Band 5)

Whoopsadaisy are pleased to offer a new and exciting opportunity for a qualified Occupational Therapist to join the team, supporting the development and wellbeing of children with physical disabilities in the Brighton area and across Sussex. Whoopsadaisy is a well-established charitable organisation that has been providing Conductive Education services to children and young people aged 0-20 years for over 15 years. The charity has close links with other local children's services, voluntary organisations, and schools to ensure children achieve the best outcomes.

Whoopsadaisy uses the principles of Conductive Education to help children and young people develop life skills and live as independently as possible. Over the last year, we have built on our services integrating Occupational Therapy into Conductive Education. We want to continue developing and enhancing our services to effectively meet the needs of the whole family and the diverse challenges children and young people face as they grow. As the occupational therapist, you would be a key member of the team to continue to bring the unique skills and knowledge of occupation and performance to the Conductive Education framework. You will work at the Whoopsadaisy Pavilion in Preston Park, Brighton and lead small groups of children and young people, organised according to age and ability. Essential life skills are broken down into small achievable steps and activities and graded to suit. You will work closely with parent/carers to embed these principles to promote functional independence. All our families are engaged, committed and value the work we do.

You will be a core member of the team comprising of conductors, assistants, and volunteers and will receive regular supervision from an experienced occupational therapist. You will have the opportunity to develop your skills and knowledge in paediatrics and attend relevant training opportunities to enhance your practice.

The successful candidate will be offered:

- a full time, 37.5 hours/week contract
- Annual leave 28 days (incl. Bank Holidays) – to be reviewed
- Competitive salary £31,049 and £33,487 (dependent on experience)
- Focussed training agreed as part of your personal development plan

Whoopsadaisy Registered Charity No 1083024

Centre: Whoopsadaisy Pavilion, Preston Park, Brighton BN1 6HN Post: West & Berry Ltd, Nile House, Nile Street, Brighton, BN1 1HW
Tel: 01273 554178 Email: info@whoopsadaisy.org Website: www.whoopsadaisy.org

For more information about the charity, please follow the link.

<https://whoopsadaisy.org/>

Full job description and person specification attached

For further details about the position, please contact Shonge Holdgate, Executive Manager, tel.: **01273 554178** or via email shonge@whoopsadaisy.org. To apply please send your CV and a supporting statement of 1,500 – 2,000 words detailing your interest in the role and how you meet the requirements of the person specification to **shonge@whoopsadaisy.org by 30th June '25.**

Whoopsadaisy Pavilion, Preston Park Brighton, BN1 6HN

Telephone: +441273554178
 Registered Charity Number: 1083024

JOB DESCRIPTION

Job Description	Occupational Therapist
Location	Preston Park Pavilion, Brighton, UK
Reporting to	Lead Conductor
Salary range	£28,000 - £33,515 Depending on experience
Hours	37.5 hours per week, 52 weeks per year
Annual leave	28 days (incl. Bank Holidays) – to be reviewed
Probationary Period	6 months
Type	Full Time post

Whoopsadaisy is a charitable organisation specialising in the development and well-being of children with physical disabilities. Our focus lies in providing unique Conductive Education and Occupational Therapy sessions and comprehensive support for children facing physical challenges, enabling them to lead as independent lives as possible and realize their full potential.

Whoopsadaisy was established in 2008 to bridge the gap in suitable services and opportunities for children with cerebral palsy and other motor disorders affecting mobility, posture, coordination, and balance. Over the years, we have grown, evolved, and earned recognition for our exceptional services dedicated to the children and families we serve.

Employing a unique and integrated approach tailored to supporting children with physical disabilities, our organisation excels in addressing their physical, emotional, social, and educational needs both individually and within group settings.

Throughout the past decade, Whoopsadaisy has expanded to support more children, allowing us to continuously refine our services and elevate our presence within the broader community.

Brighton boasts a vibrant and robust charitable sector that supports diverse causes, and we take great pride in being an enthusiastic and integral part of this community.

Whoopsadaisy Registered Charity No 1083024

Centre: Whoopsadaisy Pavilion, Preston Park, Brighton BN1 6HN Post: West & Berry Ltd, Nile House, Nile Street, Brighton, BN1 1HW
 Tel: 01273 554178 Email: info@whoopsadaisy.org Website: www.whoopsadaisy.org

We take immense pride in the services we offer and the positive impact we create for children and their families. Currently, we conduct group sessions from our Pavilion under the following services:

- Under-five's programme - Monday-Fridays during term-time
- 5-12s programme – Monday – Fridays during term-time
- 12+ programme biweekly on Tuesdays and three trips a term
- Three weeks of Holiday Clubs (one at Easter, two weeks in the Summer)

We aim to grow our services with meaningful input from children and young people we work with, ensuring their voices shape the support they receive. Our ambition is to build a service that supports children and young people not only within our sessions but also in the community, so they can access their right to education, meaningful employment, and live full lives. This includes integrating input from Occupational Therapy, to provide a child-centred support.

We also run a thriving volunteer programme which supports both service delivery and fundraising, helping us remain a dynamic and sustainable organisation.

Job Purpose

Whoopsadaisy is currently looking for a qualified Occupational Therapist to join the team and provide joint Conductive Education and OT sessions for children/young people with physical disabilities and other motor disorders. As the OT, you will bring your unique occupation-focussed skill set to work alongside the Lead Conductor, in the planning and running of the integrated sessions at Whoopsadaisy for all age groups and to carry out other reasonable duties that meet the needs of the Charity. Your role will include:

Planning

- To work holistically within the Conductive Education framework, providing person-centred assessments, intervention plans and evaluations of progress
- To use clinical reasoning skills in the assessment of a child/young person's occupational performance in their participation in everyday activities and achievement of life skills
- To use activity analysis to support the achievement of functional goals
- To promote a strengths-based approach using a wide range of skills and treatment options
- To plan termly topics and individual sessions to maximise engagement in functional tasks
- To prepare session topic motivators using the principles of activity analysis, considering the needs of the group and individual participants
- To observe, plan and develop appropriate targets and programmes for the children and young people, as part of the Whoopsadaisy team.
- To work alongside the Lead Conductor to plan and develop appropriate goals and programmes for the children and young people to work with

- To review and update programmes frequently, as part of the Whoopsadaisy team

Administration

- To formulate child-centred intervention plans using clinical reasoning and activity analysis in collaboration with the Lead Conductor and the child's parent/carer
- To record individual children's progress, as per HCPC requirements and write progress reports at the end of each academic year
- To effectively communicate written and verbal information to parents/carers, health professionals and other agencies regarding a child/young person's individual needs, progress and recommendations
- To monitor and review outcomes, adjusting goals in collaboration with families and the Lead Conductor
- To have awareness of local offer of statutory services
- To accurately record individual children's/young people's notes and progress as per HCPC requirements
- To effectively and efficiently prepare progress reports for parents/carers.
- To be aware of all Whoopsadaisy policies/procedures and incorporate these into daily practice
- To work with the Lead Conductor on creating content for marketing and communication of the organisation including social media, website and newsletters.
- To work with and provide support to assistants/volunteers during sessions

Delivery

- To plan, lead and evaluate group sessions, in collaboration with the conductor, for groups of 2-6 children
- To work together with the other conductor in the group and facilitate during sessions
- To provide support and direction to Conductor Assistants and Volunteers within group setting
- To work within a strengths-based approach, managing risk in supporting the acquisition of life skills
- To work collaboratively with parent/carers in the achievement of functional goals
- To support the Lead Conductor when assessing new children
- To work with families to provide education, advice, and strategies to support children's participation in everyday life.
- To communicate aims, approaches and facilitation to parents to develop their own skills and ability to transfer this knowledge into their everyday life
- To use age-appropriate topic related resources
- To be professionally accountable for all aspects of your work
- To ensure high standards of Health & Safety, Manual Handling and Safeguarding procedures are maintained
- To help maintain cleanliness and storage of resources and equipment, including following appropriate infection control guidelines
- To accommodate and be welcoming to visitors and observers and share the Whoopsadaisy vision
- To attend 12+ outings 3x a term
- Report to and work closely with the Lead Conductor

Organisation

- To contribute to organising all the services, holiday clubs and other events within the organisation
- To plan and organise work efficiently to manage both face-to-face and indirect activities
- To take an active part in organising special events as part of the team
- To research, organise and source appropriate equipment for services when needed
- To set up and maintain a safe, orderly storage system for the equipment

Safeguarding

- Create a safeguarding culture, recognising safeguarding concerns and acting appropriately
- To have up to date knowledge of and observe infection control policies
- To respond to immediate incidents, act appropriately and escalate concerns, ensuring all incidents are recorded centrally
- To have knowledge of local statutory and partnership organisations and make onward referrals
- To escalate any concerns to Safeguarding Lead
- To support the recruitment of the wider Whoopsadaisy team.

Other

- To adhere to the Royal College of Occupational Therapists Code of Ethics and Professional Conduct
- To maintain your own Continuing Professional Development: use reflective practice, keep up to date with developments in the field, share information and promote practice based on best available evidence
- To identify objectives for development within supervisions and annual personal development plan
- To participate in required training programmes and other aspects of personal growth

Whoopsadaisy Pavilion, Preston Park Brighton, BN1 6HN

Telephone: +441273554178
 Registered Charity Number: 1083024

PERSON SPECIFICATION

Qualifications, Essential Experience, Knowledge & Skills

Specification	Essential/ Desirable	Method of Assessment
Qualifications		
Diploma/Degree in Occupational Therapy	E	A
HCPC Registered	E	A
First Aid & Child Protection Training	D	A
Knowledge of Safeguarding principles and escalation procedures	E	A/I
Experience		
Ability to assess, develop and implement programmes of care using core occupational therapy principles, including development of group and individual programmes, write reports and evaluate outcomes	E	A/I
Experience of producing and maintaining accurate records of information, in line with established administrative procedures and related agencies	E	A/I
Clinical (or similar e.g. education / social care) experience working in paediatrics and/or neurology settings	E	A/I
Experience of working in a team with a range of professionals	E	A
Experience of leading groups/activities for children with physical disabilities/additional needs in an informal or formal setting	D	A
Experience of and understanding of Conductive Education	D	A/I

Whoopsadaisy Registered Charity No 1083024

Centre: Whoopsadaisy Pavilion, Preston Park, Brighton BN1 6HN Post: West & Berry Ltd, Nile House, Nile Street, Brighton, BN1 1HW
 Tel: 01273 554178 Email: info@whoopsadaisy.org Website: www.whoopsadaisy.org



Experience of service improvement initiatives	D	A/I
Experience of working with volunteers, parents /carers and facilitators	D	A/I
Skills		
Effective communication skills, including empathy, assertiveness and negotiation skills	E	A/I
Ability to promote value of occupational therapy as a profession	E	A/I
Ability to prioritise and organise workload	E	A/I
To be able to recognise own limitations and ask for help	E	A/I
Ability to adapt approach and interventions to suit setting	E	A/I
Ability to work independently, creatively and as part of a team	E	A/I
Excellent communication skills and the ability to liaise with parents, children, volunteers, other professionals and the public	E	A/I
Ability to plan, lead and evaluate interventions in a group setting	E	A/I
Good administrative and practical organisational skills taking own initiative and also following guidance	E	A/I
Presentation skills	E	A/I
Basic IT skills	E	A
Ability to clearly communicate the principles of conductive education to parents, children, volunteers and other professionals	D	A/I
Knowledge		
An understanding of the care and safety needs of children with SEND	E	I
Knowledge of a range of occupational therapy treatment techniques and interventions to promote participation and occupational performance	E	A/I
An understanding of, and commitment to, equality, diversity, and inclusion practice	E	I
Good understanding of child development and neuro-disability	E	A/I
An understanding of the value of Conductive Education in children's development and wellbeing	D	I



Personal		
<ul style="list-style-type: none">· Empathetic, sensitive and enthusiastic· Reflective practitioner· Advocate for Occupational Therapy· Flexible, innovative and good problem-solving skills· Adaptable and willing to learn and contribute to the community· Open-minded and respectful of different approaches· Creative and innovative· High standards and professional attitude	E	I

Method of assessment: A = Application; I = Interview;