**Job Title: Place2Be Counsellor -Mental Health Support Worker Pilot**

**Reporting to: Area Manager and TaskForce Manager (APST)**

 **Location Schools and community hubs in Telford**

 **Hours and Basis Fixed term contract- 12 months. 14-35hrs a week**

 **Salary £28,822 FTE**

## About this role:

## Together we can change children’s lives. Place2Be’s mission is to ensure that no child or young person should ever have to face mental health difficulties on their own. The Alternative Provision Specialist Task Force (APST) will be based at The Linden Centre in Telford where staff are committed to fostering the physical health and emotional wellbeing of all of our students. The mental health support worker will be employed as a member of the Specialist Taskforce pilot scheme to improve the potential and life chances of the most vulnerable and at-risk students, specifically those students at risk of anti-social behaviour, criminality, Child Criminal Exploitation and County Lines and gang affiliation, and students at risk of permanent exclusion.

## As a Place2Be MHSW, you will be delivering therapeutic interventions utilising Place2Be’s Whole School Approach (WSA) which aims to work with all systems (parents, teachers, carers and other agencies). You will be expected to effectively manage a caseload of students providing targeted and planned coaching/mental health support and health and wellbeing intervention that is Specific, Measurable, Agreed, Realistic and Timely. Working in partnership with the Family Support Officer and other members of the AP Specialist Taskforce Pilot team to maintain regular contact with the parents/carers and families of students to develop positive relationships and to share information with regards to student engagement progress and the impact of the wellbeing service. You will work with a whole range of children and young people some of whom may present with anxiety, low mood or may disclose self-harm, suicidal thoughts or who may be experiencing abuse. You will be supported and work closely with your in-house Clinical Supervisor and line manager to discuss your caseload along with group supervision via the APST along with support from the TaskForce Manager.

## Key Responsibilities:

**Service Delivery and Practice**

* Ensure ethical clinical and operational practice and delivery of a full and effective service.
* Manage referrals from APST referral routes through case allocation meetings.
* Ensure our value of integrity is at the centre of your approach in communications, practice and commitment to development and learning.
* Carry out assessments and develop formulations to recommend the most appropriate intervention, placing the child and young person at the centre of your decision making.
* Undertake one-to-one clinical work with children and/or young people.
* Deliver consultations for education staff to discuss behavior in the classroom and whole school approach providing tools to support their practice and wellbeing.
* Engaging with vulnerable and at risk students and their families in order to formulate and implement the appropriate support strategies and intervention, including, when needed attending and providing information for professional’s and safeguarding meetings.
* Promoting and championing the culture of health and wellbeing, and positive mental health awareness for both staff and students, this will include leading staff Continuous Professional Development and training – and student assemblies, form time activities and targeted group work.
* Provide sessions for parents/carers to increase their awareness of mental health difficulties in children and provide them with tools to support them with parenting at home and their wellbeing.
* Ensure all service delivery is in line with Place2Be’s Equity, Diversity and Inclusion strategy and equal opportunity practices.

**Relationships**

* Establish positive and effective relationships with the school including the head teacher, school leadership team and wider school community to deliver expectations as part of the APST.
* Build relationships with colleagues within your area along with members of the APST pilot as well as the wider teams by actively participating in meetings, events and training thereby sharing best practice to develop clinical thinking, knowledge and learning.
* Build and develop relationships with children and parents/carers to ensure effective delivery of the Place2be service maintaining ethical practice and boundaries at all times.
* Promote The Linden Centre’s vision, values and ethos in which exceptional standards of conduct and high aspirations are expected from all members of the school community.

**Safeguarding and Child protection**

* Identify and report safeguarding concerns involving child protection or vulnerable adults following Place2Be’s and Linden Centre’s policies and procedures as well as school safeguarding compliance.
* When required, make recommendations and consult with the school for referral onto external services.
* Support with reporting as required for statutory purposes such as court hearings or police investigations.
* Keep up to date with all mandatory safeguarding training as required for your role.

**Data, Evaluation and Reporting**

* Provide termly reports on service delivery and annual outcomes in accordance with Place2Be, APST and DfE requirements and guidelines in conjunction with your line manager.
* Accountable for inputting data on relevant recording systems relating to all activities and interventions in the school in a timely and accurate manner ensuring compliance with Place2Be and Telford & Wrekin Council’s data protection requirements.
* Use data to inform practice and improve impact.
* Understand trends from your data to enable you to contribute to the evaluation and development of Place2Be services nationwide.
* You may be asked to undertake any other duties that are commensurate with the post as requested by your manager and you must carry out the duties in accordance with Place2be policies and procedures.
* Working alongside the APST members and the TaskForce manager to measure the impact of 1:1 and group work intervention on the outcomes, attendance and emotional development of the school’s most at risk and vulnerable students.
* Contribute to the analysis of data and quality assurance of the health and wellbeing strategy/programme to measure the effectiveness and the impact of the service.

## What you will need:

* A Level 4 qualification diploma or above in counselling, psychotherapy or arts/play therapy AND current registered/accredited/full/qualified membership of one of the following relevant professional bodies (BACP, UKCP, HCPC, ACC, NCPS, ADMP, BAPT, BAAT, BPC, COSCA,)\*
* Understanding and commitment to work in line with the [BACP competency framework](https://www.bacp.co.uk/media/15873/bacp-cyp-competence-framework_2022.pdf) \*
* Experience of child protection/safeguarding issues and the assessment of risk or willingness to complete training in this subject.
* Able to apply techniques and strategies to improve and support student engagement, self-esteem, resilience and independent thinking.
* Experience of working most vulnerable and at-risk students and their families and a commitment to work with compassion, perseverance, integrity and creativity.
* Ability to communicate effectively and develop understanding of health and wellbeing to students, parents/carers and partners, which will include the promotion of the counselling service.
* Experience of delivering appropriate interventions and / or identifying appropriate onwards referral and working collaboratively within a multi-disciplinary team.
* Ability to capture and report on information which will enhance your Clinical and Group Supervision sessions.
* Exceptional interpersonal skills working with staff, students, parents/carers, external agencies and partners along with experience of working in a school environment.
* Ability to work flexibility and adapt to the changing needs of individual schools.
* Ability to form good working relationships with Senior Leadership Teams, Pastoral Leads and Teachers.
* Experience of working with other professional colleagues to identify and address safeguarding concerns in line with child protection legislation.
* Ability to evidence self-awareness and emotional resilience ensuring you engage with people, activities and services through Line Management and Clinical Supervision to support your emotional wellbeing.
* Work independently and efficiently to prioritise caseloads . Experience and knowledge of applying clinical assessment and formulation processes to triage referrals, inform case load, monitor risk and measure impact of practice.
* Experience of actively engaging with clinical supervision to enhance and inform practice.
* Adhere to appropriate professional boundaries and confidentiality, whilst maintaining positive relationships with students and parents/carers.
* Willingness to undertake additional duties appropriate to the post as required. This may at times include out of hours working and home/welfare visits.
* A strong commitment to our values and ability to demonstrate these in your work: Perseverance, Integrity, Creativity and Compassion. <https://www.place2be.org.uk/about-us/our-work/our-mission-vision-and-values/>
* Ability to use Microsoft office effectively.
* Experience of working with databases to input, record and report on data or a commitment and ability to learn.
* Proven evidence of continuing professional development and willingness and ability to undertake training as needed.
* Ability to work across 52 weeks of year the as this role is not term time only.
* A willingness to undergo an enhanced with barred list DBS check if appointed.

*\* Indicates the minimum criteria needed to be considered for a guaranteed interview under the disability confident scheme.*