



**Job Title:** Case Worker

**Responsible to:** Lead Child and Family Practitioner

**Location:** Based at West Farleigh (including some work across Kent)

**Hours:** 15 hours a week on fixed days – Wednesdays (9 am to 5 pm) and Fridays (11 am to 7 pm)

**Salary :** £22,664 pro rata to hours

## **Background**

Dandelion Time is a charity for school age children with significant emotional and behavioural difficulties usually resulting from abuse, or neglect. Children referred to the project are often partially or permanently excluded from school or are school refusers. The project is unique in that it engages children and also their parents and others important in their lives. Based in a rural village on the outskirts of Maidstone and close to areas of considerable deprivation, Dandelion Time has a strong ethos of working in harmony with the natural environment and uses land based craft activities, gardening and cooking as a setting for therapeutic sessions with participating children and families. Referrals to the project are from Schools, PRU's, Social Services, and Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services.

## **Job Outline**

The Case Worker will be part of a small team, including therapists and crafts-people, working with children and their families, including carers and others important in the referred child's life. The Case Worker will work with the team in the preparation for and delivery of the service together with project administrative duties and home visits.

## **Main Responsibilities**

- To assist the Project Leader and Lead Child and Family Practitioner and others in the delivery of the child and family experiential therapeutic, educational and developmental programme for children and families, including craftwork and gardening with individual or groups of school aged children.
- To be responsible for own case load.

- To prepare, lead and deliver family therapeutic and developmental sessions, including organising self and others in activities and preparation of lunches prepared with visiting families.
- To organise and at times lead one to one therapeutic sessions.
- To write up session recordings, case notes, registers and other documentation needed to fulfill the charities contractual obligations.
- To attend multi agency meetings and home visits.
- To help facilitate, organise and work alongside therapists and others in activities and therapeutic sessions to include, for example, games, drama, circus skills, participation in storytelling.
- To occasionally engage in off-site activities.
- To assist the Lead Child and Family Practitioner in managing volunteers on the project.

### Skills and Competencies

Personal Specification	Required	Desirable
Experience of working in a therapeutic setting/family provision with children and families.	✓	
Skilled in motivating people of all ages especially in a family context.	✓	
Experience of managing caseloads including site and home visits, conducting assessments and planning interventions.	✓	
Qualified or experienced in one or more specialist areas for example, (but not a comprehensive list) attachment difficulties, trauma, domestic violence, psychotherapy, education, health visiting, social work, play therapy, counseling.	✓	
An enthusiastic net-worker, wanting to learn from others and also to share your work experiences to other professionals in the areas of Education and Health.		✓
Organised and thorough in your approach to preparing programmes and documenting outcomes	✓	
Flexible and resourceful, friendly and outgoing, and be a good listener.	✓	
An enthusiasm for land-based work and the natural world.		✓
Experience or enthusiasm for a holistic and alternative approach to therapeutic provision.		✓
Experience of Microsoft Office Packages, including Outlook	✓	

### Other requirements of the post

You will be willing to undertake Dandelion Time accredited training programme

You will be a driver with a current valid driving license.

You will be required to have a current Enhanced DBS check for this role.