

Clinical Placement Job Description and Personal Specification

Nexus has 40 years' experience offering a specialised therapeutic support to people impacted by sexual abuse. We also have over 10 years' experience in providing early intervention and prevention initiatives to young people, professionals, and the general public on topics such as consent, relationship and sexuality education, internet safety and child sexual exploitation.

In addition, from April 2019, Nexus has been managing the 24 Hour Domestic and Sexual Abuse Helpline, which is funded by the Department of Health, Department of Justice, and the Department for Communities.

Our people are a dedicated and professional group of individuals who are vital to the success of the Organisation. We aim to be champions of lasting positive change for people impacted by sexual abuse by positively informing and influencing policy and practice alongside the delivery of influential, professional, quality driven and sustainable services.

Job Description

The postholder will support delivery of Nexus Counselling Services across Northern Ireland. As a clinical placement face to face counselling delivery will be at our HQ in Belfast.

The organisation provides a range of therapeutic services to support the psychological and emotional wellbeing of people with lived experience of sexual abuse and abusive relationships. Individuals using our services often present with a myriad of psychological, emotional, and social issues as a result of the trauma they have experienced. The overarching aim is to increase each individual's emotional and psychological well-being through the provision of trauma-informed therapeutic support that meets their individual needs.

Key Responsibilities:

- Provide high quality, in person, by telephone and/or online counselling to adults who have experienced sexual violence and/or abuse.
- Work with a client focused approach using appropriate therapeutic tools and approaches.
- Carefully consider the sensitive nature of this work in-particular regarding statutory investigations and court proceedings (pre-trial therapy)
- Maintain professional boundaries and adhere to Nexus's policies and procedures and BACP Ethical Framework.

- Manage and act on any safeguarding concerns relating to children or adults at risk of harm with the support of the clinical team.
- Liaise with referrers, other professionals, and agencies as appropriate.
- Maintain confidential, up-to-date, and accurate records of all counselling sessions and contacts. Ensure that all data is inputted onto the database in line with GDPR.
- Engage actively with line management, clinical supervision, and annual appraisal.
- Attend team meetings when possible.
- Attend Nexus inductions and mandatory training and participate in future CPD and in-house trainings.
- Continuously work towards and support the development of best practice and Nexus's services.
- Maintain up to date knowledge of relevant legislation and clinical best practice guidelines to contribute to the highest professional standards of counselling provided.
- Develop knowledge of other organisations, services, and referral pathways
- Commit to ongoing self-care and reflective practice.
- Work in a manner that promotes the ethos and values of Nexus.
- Take a positive and proactive approach to problem solving to contribute to a positive working environment.
- Undertake any other duties and responsibilities proportionate with the role.

Essential Criteria

1. Minimum Level 4 Counselling Diploma or Foundation Degree in Counselling Qualification or working towards completion of these counselling training courses; or similar from a recognised awarding body.
2. Provide evidence of undertaking such training courses that require a supervised placement (integral to the course) with a minimum 200 hours of tutor contact time already completed, involving at least one-year full time or two years part time.
3. Professional indemnity insurance
4. Have capacity to work online safely and from home.
5. Hold BACP Membership (student membership or higher), or equivalent.
6. Have a capacity for self-awareness and ability to identify and appropriately address your own emotional needs, including having recourse to personal therapy.
7. Be able to demonstrate a disciplined and reliable approach to therapeutic practice and manage clinical boundaries.
8. Be willing to engage openly and reflectively with feedback from managers, peers and supervisors.

9. Hold the capacity to commit to an optimum clinical placement of 3 hours per week over a twelve-month period.
10. Demonstrate excellent oral / written communication skills.
11. Demonstrate IT competence to include Microsoft Office and specifically Microsoft Word, Microsoft Excel and Microsoft Outlook, Microsoft Teams, ZOOM and use of databases.
12. Have a commitment to thoroughly understand and implement the BACP Ethical Framework (to include progressing towards full BACP accreditation).
13. Hold commitment to accuracy and data completeness of all client information and clinical records.
14. Have access to a form of transport that will enable you to meet the travel requirements of the role.
15. Be willing to work flexible hours including evenings and weekends when necessary.
16. Ability to use initiative while working individually or as part of a team.
17. Experience of working with mental health, social and lifestyle issues that present in response to traumatic experiences.
18. Awareness of importance of personal health and demonstrable ability to engage pro-actively with self-care.
19. Demonstrable ability to recognise and appropriately deal with safeguarding and risk in line with organisational procedures.

Desirable Criteria

1. At least 25 hours supervised experience of delivering counselling to clients.
2. Good working knowledge of issues related to sexual abuse and abusive relationships,
3. Experience working in the community and voluntary sector particularly within Nexus.