

St Joseph's Specialist Trust, Cranleigh, Surrey

Therapy Assistant

36 hours per week, term time only (including 5 in-service training days)

**Actual salary range £19,954 - £21,917 pa dependent on experience
(FTE £23,265 - £25,554 based on 36 hours / 52 weeks)**

*With an additional £1,000 Retention Bonus***



We are seeking an enthusiastic individual to join us as a Therapy Assistant in our Therapy Team which comprises Occupational Therapists, Speech and Language Therapists, Therapy Assistants and specialist Drama, Art and Music Therapists. Working 36 hours a week over 39 weeks (term time) the role will commence as soon as possible (following successful interview and completion of pre-start compliance and training).

At St Joseph's, we deliver an embedded therapies approach with our therapy team working in the classroom alongside our education staff. This enables both teams to plan together and share best practice for the benefit of our students. It creates a unique working environment and the opportunity to gain invaluable therapy experience. Working under the direction of the class teacher and allocated therapist, you will be required to deliver and support individual, large group or whole class therapeutic activities. Some of our students are non-verbal and communicate using, for example, iPads, "now and next" boards and Makaton.

Supporting our students can sometimes be challenging. Physical and mental resilience is crucial, you need empathy and compassion and should possess the drive to make a real difference to the lives of our young people. You will have the ongoing support of a skilled and dedicated team. Comprehensive training and mentoring includes learning about safeguarding, autism and positive behaviour support are provided.

Your working week is 35 ½ hours (08:30 – 16:00 on Monday, 08:30 – 16:15 on Tuesday to Thursday and 08:30 – 15:45 Friday) each week during term time and on In-Service training days plus 30 minutes per week that can be worked flexibly to suit operational needs.

No prior experience is necessary as full training will be given but a positive "can do" attitude, along with physical and mental resilience is essential. This role might suit someone who has recently finished their degree or has been working as a TA or LSA and is considering a move into therapies or an SEN environment. Starting salary is based on previous experience.

Why St Joseph's?

- **£1,000 Retention bonus - £250 after 1 month, £250 after 1 year, £500 after 18 months at Trust (subject to tax and NI)
- Life Insurance and Medical cashplan commencing after a month at Trust
- Team Teach positive behaviour support training, refreshed every two years, with ongoing assistance from on site Team Teach tutors within our Inclusion Team
- Personalised approach to CPD, including training courses paid for by the Trust and regular 1:1 line management support with online appraisals
- Free hot lunch supplied by our in-house catering team during term time
- Ample on-site parking

- Employee assistance service (confidential, professional wellbeing and counselling 24/7 service for you and your family members)
- Excellent network of support across the organisation including a team of Adult Mental Health First Aid and Occupational Health
- Cranleigh Leisure Centre discount on gym, swim and fitness classes
- Based on a beautiful 23 acre site in a semi-rural area on the edge of the Surrey Hills (own transport is desirable due to semi-rural location)

Our Director of Therapies is happy to discuss the role (please call or email in with a contact telephone number and we will pass it on to her so that she can ring you).

How to apply

We are happy to consider a CV initially, however shortlisting for interview is based only on a fully completed application form (including full education and employment history, a bit about yourself and why you are applying for this role, what experience you have and what you can bring to the role), per safer recruitment guidelines for our setting. For an application pack (including form, job profile and person specification) or further information please email the Recruitment Team at recruitment@st-josephscranleigh.surrey.sch.uk or call on 01483 272449 and ask for recruitment, who will be able to assist.

We will interview suitable candidates as received. Please note that we do not sponsor applicants to relocate from overseas at this time.

See our website <https://st-josephscranleigh.surrey.sch.uk/recruitment/> for further details of the Trust and the recruitment tab for details of the role and also a link to the electronic application form.

*St Joseph's Specialist Trust is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people.
This position requires an enhanced DBS disclosure and take up of references.*