



Brief for a Music Therapy Service for Children in Hospital

A partnership between York and Scarborough Teaching Hospital NHS Foundation Trust and Jessie's Fund, with support from Friends of York Hospitals.

Project name

Music Therapy for Children in Hospital Care in York

Date of brief

30 July 2021

Background

Jessie's Fund has helped to establish a Music Therapy Service in 90% of the children's hospices in the UK, and witnessed a transformational change for children, families, and staff in the hospices. Our aim is to help children experiencing treatment in hospitals in a similar way, and in this project we are working in partnership with York Teaching Hospital NHS Foundation Trust.

About the project

A fully qualified Music Therapist will work for 12 hours a week for 46 weeks a year, over a 24 month period, with the aim of commencing in November 2021. The Music Therapist will work with referred children and young people, planning and reviewing ongoing Music Therapy in conjunction with the child or young person, parent/carer and the clinical team. The Music Therapy role will fall within Paediatric Psychology and the Therapist will be part of the multi-disciplinary team. They will be prepared to offer training to colleagues where appropriate, with the aim of increasing the use of music as part of clinicians' everyday toolkit.

What are we looking for?

The Music Therapist will develop and deliver a music therapy service for children in the care of the hospital. The Music Therapist will promote music as an integral part of clinical excellence and positive patient experience. They will have good interpersonal skills, experience of working with children with additional needs, and be motivated and able to be self-directed in their work.

What will be involved?

The Music Therapist will be required to:

- assess children or young people in relation to Music Therapy as agreed with ward staff;
- plan and implement appropriate specialist Music Therapy intervention;

- offer skill-sharing of musical activities and the therapeutic use of music;
- maintain records and write Music Therapy reports, reflecting specialist clinical knowledge, which will be circulated as agreed with clinical staff/arts team and may inform external evaluation with the boundaries of confidentiality;
- demonstrate empathy with children and young people, families/carers and colleagues, ensuring that effective communication is achieved, particularly where barriers to understanding exist;
- manage a caseload, demonstrating both clinical and organisational skills, under appropriate supervision;
- be accountable for his/her own professional action and recognise his/her own professional boundaries, seeking advice as appropriate.

Service Development and the Role

- develop innovative practice within the hospital, specifically developing a music therapy service tailored to the individualised and specialised needs of its children and young people;
- use highly developed clinical/communication skills and specialist Music Therapy techniques when establishing therapeutic relationships with referred children and young people by understanding the content of their music making and verbal communications;
- work closely with children and young people, families, carers and staff, agreeing decision making relevant to the child or young person's management;
- work with children in the community if appropriate;
- work remotely if necessary;
- provide information about Music Therapy to the clinical and arts teams.
- work within defined departmental and national protocols/policies and a professional code of conduct;
- ensure that accurate observations and records of all clinical work are maintained in line with the Service Documentation Standards;
- adhere to all Trust Policies and Procedures;
- work within the guidelines of the British Association for Music Therapy (BAMT), Code of Practice.

Patient care

The Music Therapist will be expected to:

- provide Music Therapy to referred children and young people;
- plan and review an ongoing Music Therapy programme in conjunction with the child or young person, parent/carer and the multi-disciplinary clinical team;
- implement innovative clinical packages of care in the form of brief Music Therapy, effectively managing time-limited Music Therapy, including Music Therapy endings;
- assess the level of prioritisation for referrals in conjunction with ward staff;
- form effective working relationships with other professionals in multi-professional settings;
- establish clear lines of communication in respect of children's and young people's care within the multi-disciplinary paediatric teams;

- contribute to multi-disciplinary meetings and individual planning programmes through attendance and/or submission of reports which reflect specialist knowledge;
- ensure the safety and welfare of children and young people under the Music Therapist's care;
- adapt practice to meet individual child or young person's circumstances, including working constructively and flexibly with those from different cultural, social and religious backgrounds, being particularly alert to special vulnerabilities;
- maintain the hygiene of musical instruments, ensuring standards of infection control, health and safety are maintained.

Training:

The Music Therapist(s) will:

- hold a recognised postgraduate qualification in music therapy;
- be registered with the Health and Care Professions Council;
- in common with all clinical Arts Therapists, undertake clinical supervision in accordance with the BAMT Code of Practice;
- attend relevant training and development in order to maintain and develop the skills and knowledge required and to maintain up to date HCPC and BAMT Registration;
- attend additional relevant courses, and meetings appropriate to clinical area as agreed by the nominated key contact;
- have a working knowledge of, and adhere to, current legislation applicable to the clinical area, including the National Service Framework for Children, Health and Safety legislation, Clinical Governance and data protection;
- hold an enhanced DBS certificate;
- be appropriately insured, with full public liability cover.

Evaluation and budget

The Music Therapist(s) will:

- monitor and evaluate clinical practice and provide regular progress reports;
- share information with others, observing Data Protection Guidelines and the parameters of child/young person/family/carer consent law;
- record statistics in accordance with the Departmental Procedures;
- maintain and update information databases and secure confidential clinical notes;
- demonstrate clinical effectiveness through the use of outcome measures and evidence-based practice in collaboration with paediatric team and external evaluator;
- participate in Clinical Governance/Audit Projects where requested within the service;
- arrange reviews of Music Therapy intervention, and, where appropriate, provide edited audio/visual material to demonstrate clinical process and effectiveness;
- collect and provide research and activity data as required.

Budget:

The total budget, including any necessary travel and recommended provision of professional supervision, is £22,080 per year for 12 hours per week, for 24 months.

Support

The role will be supported by the Consultant Clinical Psychologist & Lead for Paediatric Psychology. The Music Therapist will be provided with all information needed to manage the Music Therapy service successfully.

For more information about the partner organisations:

<https://www.yorkhospitals.nhs.uk/>

<https://www.jessiesfund.org.uk/>

An Expression of Interest should include your professional qualifications, your experience, and how you would envisage undertaking this project. You should demonstrate how you would meet the required specifications.

Please email your Expression of Interest to Lesley Schatzberger, Director of Jessie's Fund, at lesley@jessiesfund.org.uk no later than 12 September 2021. You may be invited to give a presentation on 4 October 2021. Your presentation would be approximately 10 minutes long and would include examples of your work with children, preferably with video illustration.

Lesley Schatzberger

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<https://www.jessiesfund.org.uk/>