



VRANCH HOUSE

Job Description

JOB TITLE:	Children's Physiotherapist
JOB GRADE:	Band 6
Managerially responsible to:	Chief Executive, Vranch House
Professionally accountable to:	Head of Therapies, Vranch House
Job location:	Vranch House, Exeter

JOB SUMMARY:

- The post holder is responsible for a clinical caseload providing physiotherapy assessment, treatment and advice to a caseload of children with a wide variety of neurological and musculo-skeletal conditions.
- The post involves responsibility for the assessment and treatment of the pupils within Vranch House School. The post may evolve to include responsibility for an out patient caseload depending on workload and service requirements.
- The post involves the undertaking of specialised interventions which includes manual handling, postural management and hydrotherapy to meet the needs of children with physical and/or learning disabilities.
- The post-holder will be required to provide written physiotherapy contributions for Education Health Care Plans (EHCPs).
- The post is full time (37.5 hours per week) and is based at Vranch House in Exeter. External visits to patients at their mainstream schools or to attend meetings or training will occasionally be necessary so a full UK driving licence is required.

SPECIFIC DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES:

Clinical *The post-holder will be expected to:*

1. be professionally and legally accountable for all aspects of their own work, including the management of patients in their care.

2. gain valid and effective consent and work within a legal framework with patients who lack capacity to consent to treatment.
3. organise their own workload providing assessment and treatment as an autonomous practitioner, seeking guidance from senior staff as appropriate.
4. develop, implement and evaluate therapeutic treatment plans on a case-by-case basis.
5. use a range of verbal and non-verbal communication tools to exchange complex and sensitive information in order to communicate effectively with patients, their relatives and relevant professionals; this will include patients who have difficulty communicating.
6. Formulate and deliver an individual therapy treatment programme based on a sound knowledge of evidence based practice and treatment options, e.g. patient education, group work and other alternative options.
7. work within Vbranch House and CSP clinical guidelines, and to have a good working knowledge of national and local standards. Monitor their own and others quality of practice as appropriate.
8. provide advice to medical, school and nursing staff and other members of the multi-disciplinary team regarding the childrens conditions and management.
9. be responsible for maintaining accurate and comprehensive patient treatment records in line with Vbranch House and CSP standards of practice.

Professional *The post-holder will be expected to:*

1. be responsible for maintaining own competency to post registration/graduate diploma level through theoretical study and reflection on practice. This will be through CPD activities and maintaining a professional portfolio reflecting personal development.
2. provide support, guidance and training to the Vbranch House Therapy Assistants, assessing and evaluating their competence.
3. maintain and develop current knowledge of evidenced-based practice in specific work areas.
4. participate in the staff appraisal scheme as an appraisee and be responsible for complying with the agreed personal development plan.
5. undertake the measurement and evaluation of work and current practice through the use of evidence based practice projects, audit and outcome measures, either individually or with more senior therapists.
6. be an active member of the in-service training programme by participating in in-service training programmes, tutorials, individual training sessions, external courses and peer review in order to further develop knowledge.

7. undertake, as directed, the collection of data for use in service audit and research projects. To undertake research into specific areas of clinical practice and service delivery using a range of research methodologies as part of MDT audit and departmental research initiatives.
8. be actively involved in professional clinical groups, such as the Local Specialist Interest Groups, Peer Review Groups and other professional development activities, in order to share and expand specialist knowledge.
9. provide children and young people with the opportunity to express their views in an age appropriate way, to have their opinions taken into account and to be able to influence the shaping of services.

Organisational *The post-holder will be expected to:*

1. ensure that their practice meets the required professional standards of physiotherapy practice.
2. be flexible to cover staff absence in respect of caseload responsibility.
3. be responsible for organising and planning their own caseload to meet service and patient priorities, readjusting plans as situations change.
4. be responsible for the supervision and co-ordination of the Therapy Assistants.

HEALTH AND SAFETY:

The Postholder is required to take reasonable care of their own health and safety and that of other persons who may be affected by their acts or omissions.

The Postholder is required to conform to statutory regulations, Vbranch House Policies on Health and Safety, Safeguarding, fire procedures and confidentiality and to attend any training sessions as required.

This Job Description will be subject to review in the light of changing circumstances, and may include other duties and responsibilities appropriate to the grade, as determined by the Head of Therapies or other designated officers, in consultation with the jobholder.