

Volunteer Placement Counsellor

PERSON SPECIFICATION

Essential

- To be on/have completed a Level 4 or above counselling course (Diploma/PG Dip//Masters)
- To have a minimum of 50 hours clinical experience gained in a formal counselling setting
- To be able to manage casework/work to specific guidelines.
- To have a strong psychodynamic understanding and willingness to work within that modality.
- To have an understanding of the importance of supervision and a willingness to learn.
- An ability to reflect on clinical practice and respond to, and work on, feedback.
- To be able to work as part of a team.
- To have an understanding of counselling work and the importance of boundaries.
- To have an awareness of and commitment to adhere to the BACP's Ethical Framework.
- To be able to and understand the importance of completing paperwork, data input as required by the Guild in a timely and organised fashion.
- To show an understanding of the impact of difference and diversity in therapeutic relationships.
- To be in or have been in long-term psychodynamic or psychoanalytic therapy throughout your training
- To show awareness of a wide range of presenting issues

Desirable

- To have experience of working with people from a variety of backgrounds.
- To be able to integrate theoretical knowledge with practice.

JOB DESCRIPTION

In order for the counselling service to run as efficiently as possible, and for ethical standards to be maintained, Wimbledon Guild Talking Therapies requires a firm commitment from counsellors to fulfil these requirements:

Placement requirements

Trainee counsellors are required to:

- Be a member of/applying to a professional body such as BACP, UKRC, UKCP, BPS
- Commit themselves for a minimum of 2 years (If still in training volunteers can stay for a maximum of 5 years and if a volunteer joins after training they may stay 3 years)
- See up to 3 clients per week, as agreed with their supervisor. Clients will be allocated by the Individual Counselling Manager.
- Attend fortnightly supervision
- Be able to and understand the importance of completing paperwork/data input as required by the service in a timely and organised fashion. To follow Wimbledon Guild policies and procedures
- Be in personal therapy (minimum once a week) if still in training
- Conduct themselves in a professional manner at all times.

Probationary Period/Contract

Trainee counsellors are expected to:

- Attend an Induction Day before starting counselling work.
- Sign a Wimbledon Guild Talking Therapies Volunteer Agreement
- Be working with three clients after 3 months of starting the placement and to attend a review at this point to discuss progress.

What Trainee Counsellors can expect from Wimbledon Guild

Trainee Counsellors can expect Wimbledon Guild to provide:

- Access to and support from the Individual Counselling Manager and Admin Team.
- Fortnightly clinical group supervision.
- Access to two Volunteer Training Days a year. We expect an attendance of at least 50% as the training provided can add significantly to the trainee counsellor's personal awareness and professional development.
- Access to reduced price CPD events run by Wimbledon Guild Training
- Regular reviews and evaluation of their work.
- An environment working towards non-discriminatory ways of working, where difference is respected.
- A professional and welcoming environment in which to work.
- The Individual Counselling Manager and Admin Team are responsible for anything in relation to the counselling and supervision services, e.g. recruitment, training, supervision of the supervisors, general management, etc.
- A reference, if required, on leaving Wimbledon Guild, if the placement is deemed satisfactory.