



Action
for ASD

ACTION FOR AUTISTIC SPECTRUM DISORDERS

Registered Charity No: 1089341

21st September 2018

Dear applicant

RE: Job pack for Clinical Psychologist: Band 7

Thank you for your interest in our vacancy. Contained in this pack are the details about the position available. The closing date for all applications is **12pm on Friday 16th October 2018**. Please return completed forms to the address below marked for the attention of Hanna Ingleby or email **hanna@actionasd.org.uk**.

Please note, we expect a large volume of applicants, therefore if you have not been invited for an interview by Friday 30th November 2018 please assume you have been unsuccessful at this time.

We are hoping to hold interviews the week beginning 3rd December 2018.

We look forward to receiving your application.

Kind regards

Action for ASD

Clinical Psychologist - Adult Diagnosis and Assessment **Service for Autism Spectrum Disorders. Equivalent band to** **NHS Band 7.**

Employer: Action for ASD
Department: Adult Services
Location: ARC Burnley
Pay Band: B7
Salary: £33,222 pro rata
Working Pattern: 0.6 WTE. Flexibility in days
Contract: 6 months with potential to be extended for a further 2 years.

Job Overview

An opportunity has arisen for a qualified HCPC registered Clinical Psychologist to work within Action for ASD's Adult Diagnostic Services team. The role involves assessing and diagnosing (using relevant tools) adults referred to the service presenting with signs of Autism Spectrum Conditions, without Learning Disability. Referrals to our service typically come either from self-referral, GP or from local Mental Health Services.

The post holder will be able to develop the role over time and will receive specialist supervision in Autism and diagnosis from our Chartered Clinical Psychologist in line with HCPC and BPS requirements. The role will also include consultation with external agencies, making appropriate recommendations and informing care plans where appropriate. There is also opportunity to be involved with developing and delivering training packages to other professionals, families and carers.

The post will be based at the Action for ASD Autism Resource Centre in Burnley, however occasional visits to client's homes will be necessary. There is the opportunity for further professional development with this post and access to training and membership to the National Special Interest group.

We positively encourage applications from all sections of the community.

If you consider yourself to have a disability or require any reasonable adjustments during the recruitment process or within the workplace, please highlight this at the earliest opportunity. With this information we will provide appropriate support to you throughout the process and into your work placement (if applicable).

Action for ASD is committed to safeguarding adults and children and all successful applicants will be subject to an Enhanced Check with the disclosure and barring service.

Qualifications/Experience

- Fully qualified HCPC registered Clinical Psychologist.
- Preferably, developed and skilled knowledge in the area of Autism Spectrum Conditions in adulthood.
- Preferably, experience in the evaluation, assessment and diagnosis of adult clients presenting with signs of Autism Spectrum Conditions. In particular High Functioning and complex cases, but this is not essential.
- Preferably, experience of providing therapeutic services to clients with diagnoses of Autism Spectrum Conditions.
- Effective communicator, both orally and in writing.
- A proven track record of working both autonomously and part of a small team.
- Strong planning skills and ability to work to tight deadlines.

Job Description

Job Title: Clinical Psychologist Action for ASD Adult Diagnostic Service

Reports to: Project Director: Hanna Ingleby

Clinical Supervisor: Clinical Lead for Diagnostic Service: Dr Becky Hull, DClinPSy

Grade: Band 7 Clinical Psychologist

Job Summary

To provide a qualified specialist clinical psychology service assessing and diagnosing clients referred to the service showing signs and symptoms of possible Autism Spectrum Conditions. Additionally to provide specific ASC post diagnostic therapeutic interventions to the client group. To work autonomously in this role as lead diagnostician with the assistance of a pre diagnosis screening assessor. Additionally to work as part of a wider Adult Services team including Manager, support workers and counsellors.

Clinical Responsibilities

1. Specialist assessments; Using relevant tools, including psychological tests, self-reporting measures, direct and indirect observations and interviews with clients their families and anyone involved with their care. This will be based upon the appropriate use, interpretation and integration of complex data from a variety of sources.
2. To create and implement plans for psychological treatment and management of the clients mental health problems.
3. Determine urgency of client's needs. Provide professional interpretation of client's presentation and recommend a course of therapeutic action.
4. Maintain written records of assessments, therapy, prepare reports and letters. Provide information in the form of reports, letters and telephone and liaise with relevant agencies involved in clients care and support.
5. Adhere to all governance guidelines for client's clinical care.
6. To formulate and feedback in order to aid management of the client's difficulties based upon an appropriate conceptual framework of the presenting issues.
7. As part of the diagnostic process, to take into account both theoretical models and highly complex factors concerning historical and developmental processes that have shaped the individual.

8. To manage own caseload, exercising autonomous professional responsibility for the psychological assessment of clients, undertaking regular communication with the referral agent and others involved in the clients care.
9. To provide specialist psychological advice, guidance and consultation to other professionals contributing directly to clients' formulation, diagnosis and treatment plan.
10. To contribute directly and indirectly to a psychologically based framework of understanding and care to the benefit of all clients of the service across all settings and agencies serving the client group.
11. To use analytical and judgement skills and be responsible for taking clinical management decisions in complex clinical issues.
12. To undertake risk assessment, formulation and management for individual clients with complex presentations and to provide advice to other professions on psychological aspects of risk assessment and risk management.
13. To communicate in a skilled and sensitive manner both orally and in writing, information concerning the assessment, formulation and any treatment plans of clients under their care and to monitor progress during the course of uni-disciplinary and multi-disciplinary care.
14. To promote and participate in multi-disciplinary team working, development and liaison.
15. To actively promote user and carer involvement in care planning and service development.

Confidentiality

Maintain confidentiality of all areas of Action for ASD and its work. The nature of the work within the organization, entrusts people with confidential information about service users, their family and other staff. Any breach of this confidentiality will constitute gross misconduct.

Note

The job description reflects the present requirements of the post. As duties and responsibilities of this post change and develop, it is expected that staff will need to take on other tasks in keeping with the job description.

The hours of this post can be flexible and may include some unsociable hours.

Clinical Psychologist - Adult Diagnostic Service Employee Personal Specification

Listed below are the requirements of the job in terms of what a candidate will need to be able to perform the job effectively.

The cross (X) indicates whether these requirements are essential or desirable:

Description of Category	Evidence	Essential	Desirable
A. Qualifications			
Doctoral level training in clinical psychology, including specifically models of psychopathology, clinical psychometrics and neuropsychology, two or more distinct psychological therapies and lifespan developmental psychology as accredited by the BPS/HCPC.	App Form Certificates Interview	X	
Registered as a Clinical psychologist with the HCPC	HCPC Register	X	
Pre-qualification training and qualifications in research methodology, staff training and/or other fields of applied psychology.	App Form Interview		X
B. Experience			
Experience of working with people with Asperger's Syndrome/Autistic Spectrum Conditions.	App Form Interview		X
Experience of working psychologically with adults presenting with Aspergers Syndrome/Autistic Spectrum Conditions.	App Form Interview		X
Ability to provide psychological assessments, formulations and interventions with this client group.	App Form Interview		X
Experience of specialist psychological assessment and treatment of clients across the full range of care settings, including outpatient, community, primary care.	App Form Interview		X
Experience in the use of assessment tools for Autistic Spectrum Conditions.	App Form Interview		X
Experience of delivering training to staff working with people with Aspergers Syndrome/Autism Spectrum Conditions.	App Form Interview		X

C. Knowledge and Skills			
Skills in the use of complex methods of psychological assessment, intervention and management frequently requiring sustained and intense concentration.	App Form Interview		X
Doctoral level knowledge of research methodology, research design and complex, multivariate data analysis as practised within the clinical fields of psychology.	App Form Interview	X	
Ability to exercise judgement when presented with complex facts or situations requiring the analysis, interpretation and comparison of a range of options.	App Form Interview	X	
A high level of ability to communicate effectively, orally and in writing, complex, highly technical and/or clinically sensitive information to clients, their families, carers and other professional colleagues.	App Form Interview	X	
Skills in negotiating with, and providing consultation, to other professional and non-professional groups.	App Form Interview	X	
An ability to work in settings in which the atmosphere may be highly emotive.	Interview	X	
Knowledge of the theory and practice of specialised psychological therapies in specific difficult to treat groups (e.g. people with ASC and co-morbid psychiatric conditions etc)	App Form Interview	X	
High level knowledge of the theory and practice of at least two specialised psychological therapies.	App Form Interview		X
Knowledge of legislation in relation to the client group and mental health.	App Form Interview		X
Ability to identify and employ mechanisms of clinical governance as appropriate, to support and maintain clinical practice in the face of regular exposure to highly emotive material and challenging behaviour.	App Form Interview	X	
Research in the area of Autism Spectrum Conditions.	App Form Interview		X
Ability to communicate sensitive information to a range of personnel.	Interview	X	
Computer literacy	Interview	X	

D. Personal Qualities			
An ability to interact effectively with adult, young people, staff and members of the charity	Interview	X	
An ability to work independently, reliably and consistently with work managed and agreed and managed at regular intervals	Interview	X	
An ability to plan and prioritise	Application form	X	
Ability to cope under pressure and remain calm	Interview	X	
Willingness to undergo an enhanced DBS check	Application form	X	
Ability to cope with emotional circumstances	Interview	X	
Ability to cope with personal conflict	Interview	X	
Ability to accept and use supervision appropriately and effectively	Interview	X	
Essential Car User	Application form	X	

Indicated below are areas of special consideration in terms of working conditions of the job:

Travel

Travel within East Lancashire - Visiting statutory authorities, outside agencies, individuals etc. An allowance of 40p per mile will be made for any mileage covered.

Working Environment

ACTION for ASD operates a no smoking policy.

Pressures Inherent in Job

The job holder will frequently be in contact with people with an ASC and carers, who are under a great deal of stress, therefore certain qualities listed under D in the Employee specification are essential.

Holidays

Holidays amount to 25 per year plus 8 bank holidays (pro rata). The ARC is closed for one week at Christmas so some holidays will have to be reserved for this period excl. bank holidays.