



Job Details

JOB TITLE: Therapist (Animal-Assisted Therapeutic Provision)

SALARY: £28,146 to £39,216 per year

LOCATION: Based across Elysian's sites in Shamley Green and West Horsley (Surrey), and the Froxfield and Liss provision (Hampshire)

JOB TYPE: Full-time or part-time; term-time or all year round; weekdays and weekends. Term-time posts work 41 weeks a year, in line with the Elysian organisational calendar.

DETAILS:

This is an exciting opportunity for a therapist who understands and is passionate about supporting the complex needs of children and young people, and the meaningful input that equines and other animals can have on personal development and recovery. Animal or horse experience is not essential, but it would be a strong advantage.

This pioneering organisation provides therapeutic education, alternative provision and animal-assisted interventions (AAI) for children, young people and adults with a wide range of emotional, social and mental health needs. Our work is rooted in the transformative power of animals, especially equines, in fostering wellbeing, emotional regulation and personal development.

We are looking for someone experienced in working with children and young people with a variety of emotional, social and behavioural difficulties, including additional needs.

You will be working in a supportive, skilled multidisciplinary team across beautiful outdoor sites where animals, nature and therapeutic education go hand in hand. No two days are the same, and this is not your typical clinical setting.

This is a very 'hands-on' role, working outside in all weathers. It is great fun for the right person, but it is not suited to someone who would prefer to be based indoors or in an office every day.

Please complete the initial interest form on our website and send your CV with a cover letter explaining how your skills, attributes and experience make you a good candidate for this role to recruit@elysianuk.org.

We are looking for therapists to cover all seven days of the week, and welcome part-time and full-time candidates who can work from a minimum of three days a week up to full time (five days).

The role includes contributing to a wide range of therapeutic activities, with a focus on providing therapy and undertaking assessments of children and young people. It also includes facilitating goal-focused therapeutic groups.

At weekends, we may see adults, younger children, families and other groups. From Monday to Friday, we mainly see children and young people.

We welcome applicants who want to work any days of the week: weekdays only, weekends only or a mix of both, as long as they are the same days each week.

We are recruiting across all three of our sites as part of our expansion: our established provision in Shamley Green, Surrey, our provision in West Horsley, Surrey, and the Froxfield

and Liss provision in Hampshire.

Why Join?

- Work in a unique, animal-assisted therapy setting that makes a real difference
- Join a passionate and creative therapy and education team
- Flexible hours: we are open to shaping the role around your availability
- Opportunities for professional development and animal-assisted training
- Meaningful, person-centred work with young people facing complex challenges

KEY RESPONSIBILITIES

- Oversight of therapeutic goals for each client, child or young person on your caseload
- Manage an individual caseload while delivering therapeutic assessment and treatment to clients
- Assess new clients, and formulate and deliver goal-centred treatment plans
- Maintain the records needed to evaluate service needs and efficiency, and ensure that documentation is clear, accurate and compliant with legal requirements
- Undertake research relevant to assessing clients' needs and to developing and evaluating interventions, when needed
- Maintain an appropriate level of confidentiality at all times
- Prepare the delivery structure for animal-assisted therapy (AAT) groups and workshops
- Where appropriate, provide coaching and training for students and junior or new staff
- Where appropriate, provide supervision to others with clinical responsibilities, so that our clinical practice remains at the highest possible standard
- Oversee and undertake liaison with clients, carers or parents and relevant professionals on session organisation, session planning and treatment plans, as part of a holistic approach to support
- Provide organisational reporting with evaluation and outcome data
- Contribute to outcome evaluation, training and wider organisational activities

ABOUT YOU

We welcome applications from therapists with experience in counselling, psychotherapy, occupational therapy, play therapy, art therapy or a related field.

Experience and qualifications

- Professional registration with a national body such as the HCPC, BACP or UKCP (essential)
- A degree in a relevant field, such as art or play therapy, occupational therapy, social work or psychology, with additional practice experience or post-qualifying training
- At least three years' postgraduate experience of providing counselling or therapeutic intervention to clients
- Experience of working with people with mental health needs
- Qualification in using a range of clinical assessment tools (essential)
- Qualifications and experience in AAT or equine-assisted psychotherapy (EAP) (desirable)

- Membership of, or certification from, a nationally or internationally recognised AAT or EAP body, such as EAGALA or PATH International, will be highly regarded
- Experience of delivering psychoeducation workshops that incorporate animals will be an advantage
- Supervision training and experience (essential)

SCHEDULE:

- Flexible positions available: weekdays, weekends, term-time or all year round
- Minimum of three days per week
- Working hours: typically 9am to 5pm

EMPLOYER:

Elysian is a therapeutic education and alternative provision provider that supports children and young people with social, emotional and mental health needs, ASD, ADHD, trauma and attachment difficulties. We use animals, nature and creative therapeutic interventions to help young people thrive. Elysian is committed to safeguarding children and young people. All roles are subject to safeguarding checks, including references and DBS checks, before employment begins.