

**Job Description**

**School Counsellor**

**Job Purpose**

**North East Wellbeing’s purpose is to create NEW landscapes of life chances for vulnerable children through colourful and creative education, and our Mission is to provide good leadership, governance and finance so that our family of projects can flourish.**

We are seeking to recruit experienced Counsellors to a bank of self-employed practitioners; the purpose of the role will be to work with children and young people within the school setting. The increasing independence of schools and the decreasing resources of the local authority mean that support to families and children in need can become fragmented. NEW is a not-for-profit response; we deploy outstanding, qualified professionals as requested by schools and their surrounding communities. The counsellor will work within a school and/ or in the community, providing counselling for young people and helping young people with personal and developmental issues. The counsellor will aim to enable young people to deal with a wide range of difficulties, including life changes, trauma and bereavement and to live in a more resourceful and satisfying way.

**Responsible to:** NEW therapeutic Schooling Project Leader

**Disclosure****:** The successful applicant will be subject to an enhanced DBS check

**Duties and Responsibilities**

1. To work as a School Counsellor as directed by NEW in commissioning school(s).
2. To provide counselling within school, or outside of the school setting, where appropriate
3. To ensure that British Association of Counselling and Psychotherapy (BACP) Codes of Practice and Ethics are adhered to at all times across the service
4. To maintain a child-centred approach, enabling young people to move towards greater self-understanding
5. To ensure that confidentiality is maintained in all aspects of work, and to arrive at a clear understanding of confidentiality with individual young people
6. To complete and maintain up-to-date confidential records, in line with data protection legislation requirements and agreed school policy
7. To ensure the counselling service operates according to principles of equal opportunity, for example ensuring equal access to the service
8. To establish effective liaison with school staff in order to work in the best interests of young people and to support staff in their pastoral roles
9. To identify and help to strengthen other resources and means of support for young people within and outside school, as required, applying counselling values and skills
10. To maintain and monitor appropriate student referral systems
11. To follow statutory and school policies and procedures in relation to Child Protection, in the interest of young people’s safety
12. To attend regular supervision with a suitable qualified supervisor, in accordance with BACP guidelines
13. To liaise with external agencies, as appropriate, in the best interests of young people
14. To attend all training and staff development workshops, as required
15. To produce regular reports, as requested by NEW, relating to the counselling service
16. To abide by the host school’s or organisation’s polices on Health and Safety and general working practices
17. To keep abreast of changes in legislation, guidance and practice linked to the counselling field, locally and nationally
18. To contribute to NEW annual self-evaluation and appraisal procedures
19. To work flexibly, according to the demands of the service, and to undertake such other duties identified by the co-ordinator, as may be appropriate to the role