

Job description

Post:	Senior Occupational Therapist
Department:	Hospice at Home
Reports to:	Locality Lead, Hospice at Home
Responsible to:	Interim Community Services Manager
The post holder will work as a Band 6 Senior Occupational Therapist. It is a post with particular emphasis on supporting the needs of patients in their own homes. The post holder will work independently with support of the Therapy Lead, Specialist Occupational Therapists (Community) and other members of the Therapy Department and wider MDT. The post holder will work to provide high quality specialist Occupational Therapy input as reflected by the Princess Alice philosophy.	
Signature:	Date:

Our values and behaviours

Our Values are summarised by the acronym **I CARE**. They support our vision, mission and culture, reflecting who we are together and as individuals.

I CARE	
Integrity	- We are honest and open - We are trustworthy and authentic in our dealings with others - We always try to do the right thing
Compassion	- We are kind, supportive and caring - We have empathy and listen to those around us - We are warm and positive in our interactions
Accountability	- We work together to make the Hospice's vision a reality - We take responsibility for our work, performance and behaviour - We acknowledge and learn from our mistakes
Respect	- We are inclusive, we value difference and work together effectively - We are sensitive to the thoughts, feelings and opinions of others - We treat everybody with dignity
Excellence	- We aim to be our best - We are forward-thinking and open to change - We share our skills, expertise and learning, striving for excellence together

Key responsibilities

1. Clinical

- 1.1. As a member of the multi-disciplinary team, undertakes and contributes to assessment of holistic specialist palliative care needs to include their physical, psychological and cognitive needs.
- 1.2. As a member of the multi-disciplinary team participates in developing a re - enablement approach to delivering care.
- 1.3. As a member of the multi-disciplinary team, promotes a seamless package of care, including liaison with external agencies, to enable patients to be managed in their preferred place of care throughout their pathway of care.
- 1.4. Communicates effectively with patients, relatives and carers, using specialist advanced communication skills.
- 1.5. As a member of the Hospice at Home team, works independently with responsibility and accountability for assessing, implementing and evaluating the occupational therapy needs of own caseload.
- 1.6. To ensure the appropriate assessment, provision, use and storage of specialist equipment necessary to support patient care.
- 1.7. Participates in multi-disciplinary team meetings to provide informed occupational therapy opinion.
- 1.8. Contributes to the creation and maintenance of positive working relationships with the multidisciplinary staff and volunteer teams.
- 1.9. Applies Clinical Governance and Risk Management requirements, ensuring that policies and guidelines are adhered to.
- 1.10. Proactively supports change within the departments in light of evidence based best practice with particular emphasis on developing and promoting a rehabilitative approach to palliative care.
- 1.11. If required, to provide input to In-Patient Unit/ Wellbeing Centre to cover leave

2. Education, Audit and Research

- 2.1 Acts as a role model, providing informal education and support to colleagues in their provision of care.
- 2.2. Participates in the delivery of formal educational programmes internally and with external clinical and academic partners.

- 2.3 Supports the Therapy Team in providing opportunity for education of Occupational Therapy students, and provides education of own role to students of other professions on placement at Princess Alice Hospice.
- 2.4 Participates in clinical audit processes.
- 2.5 Contributes to statistical activity and project reports as required.
- 2.6 Participates in and supports occupational therapy and collaborative clinical research in palliative care and leads in the development of research-based practice.

3. Professional

- 3.1. Ensures own registration with the Health Professions Council, and is aware of the HPC Code of Professional Conduct and Scope of Professional Practice.
- 3.2. Ensures that a professional portfolio is kept and updated in accordance with HPC recommendations.
- 3.3. Positively commits to staff appraisal, performance and clinical supervision to ensure personal professional development.
- 3.4. Ensures that personal knowledge and skills meet the requirements of the post and that they are in line with current practice.
- 3.4. Acts as an ambassador for the Hospice at all times, including representing the Hospice in fundraising and public relations activities as requested.

4. Other Responsibilities

- 4.1 To undertake any other such duties or general tasks and hours of work as may reasonably be required and to work in other locations within the hospice organisation.
- 4.2 Lead by example, exemplifying the Hospice values and behaviours – Integrity, Compassion, Accountability, Respect, Excellence.

A job description is not a rigid or inflexible document but acts to provide guidelines to the duties expected while in post.

This job description will be reviewed and amended in the light of changing professional demands.

Personal specification

Post:	Senior Occupational Therapist Band 6 (Community)
Department:	Hospice at Home

Qualifications and Training

- Degree or Diploma in Occupational Therapy
- Registered with the Health Professions Council
- Palliative care qualification and/ or willingness to undertake
- Communication skills training
- Manual Handling training

Work background and experience

- Several years post graduate experience
- Experience of multi-disciplinary team working within a health-care environment
- Post-registration experience of working in a community setting
- Oncology, Palliative Care and/or neurological experience
- Participation in clinical audit
- Experience of providing clinical education for undergraduate students
- Experience of using computerised patient records
- Wheelchair assessment and prescription
- Teaching experience

Particular skills and aptitudes

- Ability to work as an independent practitioner
- Advanced clinical assessment skills
- Ability to adopt an enablement approach to patient care
- Ability to adopt a teaching approach that supports learning in a clinical setting
- Commitment to professional development
- Ability to work across a wide range of client ages & needs
- Evidence of advanced communication skills both written and verbal
- Good interpersonal skills
- Able to work effectively in an emotionally demanding environment
- Computer literate
- Decision making skills
- Organisational skills

Specialist knowledge

- Understanding of specialist palliative care provision
- Knowledge and understanding of a rehabilitative approach to palliative care
- Working knowledge of community services/ ward setting
- Working knowledge of complex Manual Handling procedures
- Knowledge of current healthcare and occupational therapy policy and provision

Personal qualities and other requirements

- Flexible, motivated, self-directed
- Creative approach to clinical practice
- Pleasant and calm manner
- Ability to work under pressure
- Ability to work well within a team
- Ability to perform manual handling procedures
- Car owner/driver
- Awareness of, and commitment to the Mission, Vision and Values of the Hospice