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**ROLE PROFILE**

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| **Role:** | Youth Support Worker – Hospital Based  |
| **Reporting to:** | Community Therapeutic Services Manager |
| **Line managed by:**  | Community Therapeutic Services Manager |
| **Direct Reports:** | N/A |
| **Salary Scale:** | Band : 8/9 Salary Scale Paypoint 32-39 (£29,271 - £35,490) |
| **Duration:** | 1 Year Maternity Cover  |
| **Location:** | Belfast Hospital Sites  |

**Role Overview**

The overriding role and responsibility of the post is to work as an effective member of the Adolescent and Young Adult [AYA] Cancer Service in N. Ireland, ensuring all patients receive age appropriate, high quality social and emotional support.

To deliver dedicated hospital-based support services designed to meet the psychosocial needs of teenagers and young adults living with cancer across Royal Belfast Hospital for Sick Children and Northern Ireland Cancer Centre, Belfast City Hospital. Specifically:

* To co-ordinate and provide one to one support and group activities in the hospital settings ensuring they are well planned and structured, appropriate and safe for all participants.
* The delivery of creative diversionary activities for teenagers and young adults.
* To engage and develop supportive and nurturing relationships with teenagers and young adults.
* Prepare teenagers and young adults for, and support them through, invasive and non-evasive medical procedures, including chemotherapy, radiotherapy and surgery.
* Contributing to the design and implementation of programmes to support transition, both in age/development and stages of the cancer pathway
* Developing age-appropriate methods for involving teenagers and young adults in the development and evaluation of services.

**Key Accountabilities**

1. **Operational Accountabilities**
	1. Participate in the Regional AYA multi-disciplinary advisory team meetings (twice a month) to ensure the delivery of high standard care based on the assessed need of individual teenagers and young adults and regional steering groups were possible.
	2. Establish and maintain close working relationships with Multi-Disciplinary Teams in the regional cancer hospitals and local hospitals throughout Northern Ireland to deliver hospital-based support to teenage and young adult patients. Contribute towards AYA specific education days for healthcare professionals in all units.
	3. Ensure that all ward support delivered under the post holder’s remit meets the needs of teenagers and young adults and that all resources are appropriately allocated according to priority of need.
	4. Maintain confidential, accurate case records to account for all direct work with teenagers and young adults in receipt of Cancer Fund for Children services.
	5. Deliver age appropriate and engaging support packages to individuals and to groups of teenagers and young adults on hospital wards and designated areas on hospital sites.
	6. Provide written reports to an agreed standard, reviewing all individual and group-work regarding teenagers and young adults to measure and evidence impact/outcomes.
	7. Contribute to the development of new ideas and proposals for delivering services within realistic time frames and realistic budgets.
	8. Liaise with Health Trusts and all relevant networks, signposting to other service providers, when necessary, to improve the quality of teenagers and young adults’ experiences.
	9. Use technology in the provision of services to children and families both on an individual basis and group basis.
2. **General Accountabilities**
	1. Provide accurate data, as determined by the Community Therapeutic Manager, on an agreed basis.
	2. Be cognisant and compliant with Cancer Fund for Children policies and procedures designed to meet service delivery requirements and that apply to the organisation.
	3. Be cognisant and compliant with Health and Social Care Trust policies and procedures designed to meet service delivery requirements specific to post-holder’s remit.
3. **Financial Accountabilities**
	1. Work within agreed project expenditure, in line with budgets, up to a limit set by the

 Services Manager.

* 1. To submit all expenses to Services Manager monthly.
	2. To ensure responsibility of all resources held within the post’s remit, including equipment and facilities.

### General Duties:

* 1. To attend Cancer Fund for Children Services Team meetings, prepare material and fully contribute to casework discussions.
	2. To be available for planning, review, supervision, support and appraisal meetings.
	3. To be available for on-going professional development / training opportunities and to attend all mandatory training.
	4. To promote Cancer Fund for Children services available to children and young people and their families
	5. To represent Cancer Fund for Children as delegated by the Community Therapeutic Manager.
	6. To perform any other reasonable duties and specific projects deemed to be within the post-holder’s competence, as assigned by management to contribute to the overall aims of the Cancer Fund for Children.

**Person Specification**

| **Key Criteria** | **Essential** | **Desirable** |
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| ***Qualifications*** | * 3rd Level Recognised Professional Qualification in Social Work, Health Care, Youth and Community work, therapeutic background or similar field.

  | * Registered with the Social Care Council or equivalent in Health / Youth Work
* Able to demonstrate clear evidence of ongoing professional development
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| ***Experience / Knowledge*** | * At least 3 years’ experience ofdelivering direct services to children/youngpeople and their families.
* Experience working as part of a multi-disciplinary team.
* Proven experience and knowledge of using creative and needs led methods of engagement with teenagers and young adults.
* Experience of working with young people in group settings
* Knowledge of child protection legislation and procedures
* Knowledge of assessment tools / methods
* Experience of working within set budgets
 | * Experience of working in the field of critical illness, disability, bereavement, and loss
* Experience of working with children and young people in a clinical setting/healthcare.
* Experience of completing assessments and delivering support plans.
* Experience of advocacy/rights-based work with children/young people/parents
* Knowledge of relevant government policy supporting children and families affected by cancer.
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| ***Competencies*** | * Demonstratable ability to build rapport with young people.
* Excellent written and verbal communication skills to include:
* Active listening skills
* Group work skills
* Assessment skills
* Strong report writing skills.
* Monitoring and Evaluation skills
* Ability to forward plan, prioritise and manage time/workload.
* Proficient use of industry-standard ICT software, including database packages
* Innovative, resilient, and adaptable to change.
* Ability to develop relationships with a wide range of professionals/charities and other stakeholders.
* Ability to work both independently and as part of a team.
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| ***Job Circumstances*** | * Ability to travel as required.
* Driving licence
* Work flexible hours including up to 2 evenings each week and a Saturday/Sunday once a fortnight.
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