



Staffordshire
University
Services Limited

Job Description

Job Title	Mental Health and Wellbeing Practitioner
School/Service/Institute	Student and Academic Services
Normal Workbase	Stoke campus
Tenure	Permanent
Grade/Salary	Grade 7
FTE/Hours	0.6 FTE, 3 days per week

Job Purpose

This role sits with Student Wellbeing and Safeguarding, a team of forward-thinking professionals who are flexible, dynamic and continue to evolve service delivery, working towards our holistic vision of student wellbeing.

This role is part of a multidisciplinary team offering support to students experiencing mental health, psychological and wellbeing difficulties. Support includes a wide range of approaches and interventions delivered during assessment, advice and information, therapeutic and other psychological interventions (e.g. CBT, Counselling, Brief Therapy interventions), health promotion and proactive prevention services. The Head of Student Support and Wellbeing has responsibility for student safeguarding, and you will support by deputising and addressing safeguarding issues.

You will be expected to assess student needs in line with current equality and diversity legislation and assist the university to embrace its responsibilities regarding reasonable adjustments for students with wellbeing and mental health difficulties. You will act as liaison with university and external staff (e.g. Physical Health, Mental health and other Statutory or Voluntary Sector agencies) and will be required to facilitate interventions for students with acute mental health and/or wellbeing needs.

The role incorporates a range of casework, care-planning, risk assessment, evidence-based interventions, proactive wellbeing advice and campaigns; alongside opportunities to develop an effective network.

You will make, build and maintain effective links with external NHS and voluntary sector mental health services to support both your own referral of students and referrals by other practitioners in the team.

As an experienced mental health practitioner, you will have a mental health qualification and current accreditation with a recognised professional body, such as the British Association of Counselling Psychotherapy BACP, Nursing and Midwifery Council (NMC) or the Health and Care Professions Council (HCPC).

Delivery of the services outlined will involve face to face therapeutic interventions for individuals and groups, in addition to group information sessions. These sessions will be delivered on campus and remotely via digital platforms and online software.

Your interventions may include:

- Supporting Wellbeing Triage and student assessments
- Mental health advice, support and clinical interventions
- Counselling and other psychological therapies or psychosocial interventions
- Case management and co-ordination
- Advising on the provision of reasonable adjustments and supporting students in accord with the requirements of current legislative frameworks (e.g Equality Act 2010) as appropriate
- Overseeing the provision of support to students in crisis/at risk of suicide or self-harm
- Weekly Wellbeing Café support

You will maintain clear therapeutic boundaries and confidentiality, balanced with a need to share appropriate information for the effective management of clinical risk across the institution. Your commitment to adhering to professional and ethical principles and guidelines will be coupled with a flexible approach to adopting new ways of working and learning new skills.

Relationships	
Reporting to:	Head of Student Support and Wellbeing
Responsible for:	No line management responsibility
Key working relationships:	Colleagues throughout the University, NHS partners, the Students' Union and social care

Main Activities
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To support the contribute to the delivery of the Wellbeing service by receiving and responding to referrals directly from students and from the wider university community where there is a concern regarding student wellbeing. • To support in the provision of a triage service, a standardised mental health assessment for all students referred to the service, and collaboratively determine the most appropriate intervention, including whether an urgent response is required and how further support would best be provided and determine when escalation is required. • To deliver therapeutic/counselling interventions utilising a 'single session therapy' mindset, when supporting students. Additionally, this will require managing on-going risk, holding a caseload, and safeguarding responsibilities. Cases should have detailed care plans with clear and measurable outcomes. • To maintain accurate contemporaneous electronic records regarding all activities for all service users in accordance with University policies and guidance from professional bodies, including clinical assessment with clear identification of

problems and plan of care.

- You will operate flexibly, sometimes out of office hours as part of the Department's out-of-hours on-call support team, working on a rota and providing advice and support to Res Life Coordinators and other teams on site.
- To support the Head of Student Support and Wellbeing to maintain accurate and up to date records and provide regular reports, including evaluation of impact and effectiveness of service to inform a continuous cycle of review and development.
- Caseload management will be overseen during case meetings with the Manager and appropriate team members to ensure effective management and boundary setting so that the service can continue to meet demand and work towards APPTS accreditation.
- To manage case discussions and offer direction to staff members who are working directly with students managing levels of vulnerability, to ensure appropriate advice and guidance is provided. To support the embedding of policies and practices to deliver a transformed Student Wellbeing and mental health service.
- Each team member will have a project area, which may include one of the following: clinical supervision to student group (e.g. RLMs, Student Wellbeing mentors....), deliver wellbeing and mental health training across the university as required, support the Wellbeing Café weekly delivery, provide individual supervision for placement students, and other project opportunities.
- To use excellent and proactive communication skills to work in collaboration with University departments, and Academic Schools to embed an effective, flexible and proportionate response to student mental wellbeing and safeguarding concerns with a core focus on addressing potential barriers to University achievement.
- To ensure accurate, up to date record keeping and the processing, storage and sharing of student data in accordance with agreed confidentiality and data protection policies and procedures.
- To support the development and implementation on a day-to-day basis of the critical incident response procedures to intervene with students with wellbeing and mental health difficulties demonstrating a calm, authoritative and decisive approach.
- To provide clinical support to students as required, including group sessions; 1 to many support and peer to peer support programmes and support for students who may have additional support needs. This may be delivered face to face, via Teams on digital platforms, via phone, text or email.
- To undertake other such responsibilities as may reasonably be required.
- To participate in the Universities and professional bodies continuing personal development (CPD) opportunities to ensure increased knowledge base, self-awareness and enhanced clinical skills. Supporting the Manager in providing supervision/mentorship to mental health nursing/counselling placement students, as necessary.
- To have due regard for the University's safeguarding, Prevent and health and safety duties.
- To undertake appropriate professional development and mandatory training activities as identified or required (See Professional Development section).

- The role holder is required to minimise environmental impact in the performance of their role and to actively contribute to the delivery of the University's Environmental Sustainability Policy

Special Conditions

The postholder will be required to travel to all campuses and represent the University in the UK and Overseas as required.

There will be a need for the postholder to work occasional weekends to cover marketing and recruitment activities.

Professional Development

The University will support and encourage the postholder to engage in continuous professional development activities through the YOURCareer@Staffs framework. This framework supports postholders to identify appropriate development opportunities. Continuing Professional Development (CPD) activity will be recognised by a bi-annual Performance and Development Review (PDR) discussion.

Variation to Job Description

The University reserves the right to vary the duties and responsibilities of its employees within the general conditions of the Scheme of pay and conditions and employment related matters. Thus, it must be appreciated that the duties and responsibilities outlined above may be altered as the changing needs of the service may require.

Conditions of Service

The postholder will be employed by Staffordshire University Services Limited.

Staffordshire University Services Limited is a wholly owned subsidiary company of Staffordshire University which recruits and provides both academic and professional support staff to the University. You will be subject to Staffordshire University's policies and procedures and will be eligible to participate in the Staffordshire University Pension Scheme.

Application Procedure

We encourage applicants to apply on-line at our website <http://jobs.staffs.ac.uk> as the system is user friendly and simple to complete.

We ask that all applicants ensure that they have provided comprehensive information under each criterion in the Supporting Statements section of the application form and, if necessary, add any relevant additional information in the Additional Information Section. The University will use anonymous application forms for this role; however, we recognise that applicants may want to include additional information. If you choose to upload any supporting documents that contain identifiable data, your application will no longer be

considered anonymous.