

Occupational Therapist



Welcome

Dear Applicant,

With the completion of our new purpose-built school and the expansion in pupil numbers, we are seeking to grow our team of dedicated professionals to ensure we maintain and further enhance our outstanding offer of education and therapeutic care.

We are absolutely thrilled to share that Side by Side School has been rated Outstanding (Inspection July 2025) across all areas. This wonderful achievement is a genuine recognition of the exceptional education, care, and support provided every day by our incredible staff team, and it marks the beginning of an exciting new chapter for our school. We would be delighted if you would consider joining us and becoming part of our story as we continue to grow and achieve together.

Visitors to Side by Side are consistently impressed with the warm and calm atmosphere. They often comment on the happiness of our pupils in their learning environment, where personal care needs are met with the utmost dedication. Our staff team is passionate about providing pupils with an educational and therapeutic input that enables them to make significant progress. We are sure you will be inspired and we warmly encourage you to visit us and view our school first-hand.

We are currently looking to recruit an experienced Occupational Therapist to join our team. In this role, you will be an integral part of our therapy department, working collaboratively within a multidisciplinary team. You will have access to specialist OT clinic rooms, classrooms, and a wide range of therapeutic equipment to support your practice. We also place a strong emphasis on continued professional development and offer opportunities to grow and refine your skills.

We are excited about the prospect of welcoming a dedicated professional who shares our commitment to delivering excellence to all our pupils. Thank you for your interest, and I look forward to receiving your application.

Yours faithfully,



Gerald Lebrecht
Headteacher
Side by Side School

Job Description

Job Title:	Occupational Therapist
Responsible to:	Head Teacher
Hours :	Full-time - 5-month fixed-term contract (initial)
Salary :	Competitive - commensurate with experience and qualification
Location:	The Ronson, Wohl, Esfandi Campus, Avidgor Mews, Lordship Road London N16 0QJ

Side by Side Children Ltd. is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young persons. Staff must ensure that they follow school policies, guidance and regulation to safeguard children and young people. The successful candidate will be required to undergo an Enhanced Disclosure form the Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS). It is essential to maintain complete confidentiality on all school matters.

Side by Side is committed to providing an outstanding education for all its pupils. The ethos of the school will meet the needs of the Jewish Community through providing a broad secular and religious education with therapeutic and life skills programmes as an integral part of the school day.

Main Responsibilities

Clinical

1. To provide occupational therapy assessment (e.g. functional behavioural and standardised assessments, skilled observation, checklists, histories and interviews) and intervention in accordance with the child's needs and requirements as stated within the statement/EHCP.
2. Develop intervention plans based on student needs and regularly evaluate.
3. Monitor and reassess the effects of occupational therapy intervention and the need to continue, modify, or discontinue intervention.
4. Participates in multidisciplinary meetings to review evaluation results, integrate findings with other disciplines, offer recommendations and develop individual education plans and intervention plans to achieve IEP goals.
5. To be an active member of Side by Side's MDT team and contributes to the strategic planning, monitoring and evaluation.
6. Collaborate with other disciplines to ensure team understanding of student occupational performance strengths and needs, through evaluation, educational programme planning and service delivery.

Management

1. Prioritises and schedules work tasks independently.
2. Maintains clinical and administrative records in accordance with professional standards and school guidelines.
3. Write reports reflecting specialist knowledge as required. E.g. Annual Reviews, EHCP requests for information etc.
4. Maintain the resources.
5. Advise and monitor non-occupational therapy support personnel (LSA)
6. Liaise with Side by Side staff, community agencies, parents and students to increase understanding of the student's occupational performance.
7. Provide training to staff to maximise pupil progress

Communication

1. Communicate effectively
2. Advise the School Manager of any incident of any student whose care/health is causing concern
3. Participate in MDT meetings and training sessions as required
4. Maintain complete confidentiality on all matters
5. Notify the School Manager of any absences

Other Responsibilities

The duties and responsibilities in this job description are not restrictive and the post holder may be required to undertake any other duties which may be required from time to time.

The post holder must carry out his/her duties with full regards to the setting's Health and Safety Procedures.

It is the post holder's responsibility to maintain their HPC registration, CPD records and any other relevant regulatory requirements.

Person Specification

	<u>Essential</u>	<u>Desirable</u>
<u>Experience</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 3 + years post OT qualification working in pediatrics • Experience in working across a multi-professional team • Working with parents and volunteers • Managing and evaluating resources within a setting 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Experience in delivering training
<u>Qualifications</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Occupational Therapy Qualification • Registered with the HPC 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Attended relevant post-qualification training. • SI training
<u>Knowledge and Skills</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ability to develop and deliver effective programs for the pupils • Monitor the effectiveness of programs and adapt as required. • Ability to advise and support other professionals • Ability to identify own training needs, attend required training and continued professional development. • Knowledge and understanding of SI approaches. • Able to communicate confidently with a wide range of people both written and verbal. • Worked with children with additional and special educational needs. • Able to work independently as well as being part of a team. • Ability to assess and recommend specialist seating and equipment for pupils with physical disabilities or complex needs. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Experience in providing clinical supervision, with the ability to guide reflective practice and support professional development.
<u>Personal Attributes</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Warm and caring personality – friendly and approachable to families, staff and children. • Highly motivated and commitment to high standards. • Flexible 	

About our school ...

Integrated Nursery

We aim to provide high quality care and education for all children with or without special needs from the age of 2 to 5 years. We offer children and their parents a service that promotes equality and values diversity within our framework and the Early Years Foundation Curriculum.

Our curriculum follows the EYFS to ensure the children are given the opportunities to develop in the key development areas which works alongside our Jewish Studies curriculum. For children with special and additional needs our SENCO team and therapists work together with our teaching staff, parents and external professionals to ensure we are meeting their needs. We gather the information and record the input we are providing we will present this as part of our request for a statutory assessment leading to an EHCP.

At Side by Side we pride ourselves on preparing the children for their next phase of education. For some we support transition into mainstream settings whether they have an EHCP or not. For those children with EHCPs that require continued support from a specialist environment will transition into our special school.

Special School

Our school welcomes all children with EHCPs with the placement being approved by the Local Authority. We provide an all through education from the age of 5 through to 19. This provides the stability for the children and their families to be able to complete their statutory education in a setting that they are familiar with, building friendships and benefit from an educational provision that is challenging, ambitious preparing them for young adulthood.

Across the different age phases, we provide two learning frameworks; complex needs curriculum for pupils with severe learning needs, with the semi-formal stream for pupils who are working at higher levels and early stages of the national curriculum. Alongside the secular curriculum the pupils will continue to receive a Jewish Studies provision as a discrete programme as well as utilising cross-curricular opportunities throughout the day. As the

pupils move into the 14 – 19 phases, they will have opportunities to develop the skills and recognised qualifications using ASDAN courses, work experience placements, access the community and focus on life skills education. As with the Early Years provision, our therapy team will work with the pupils and staff to ensure their needs are being met and the opportunity to generalising their skills.

Integration – When appropriate, we work with the local schools to enable our children to attend sessions in the school. This provides the opportunity for our pupils to integrate and have those additional social experiences in a mainstream setting. For some children, there will be transition points during their time in school where they have made progress and ready to move into a mainstream setting with the continued support provided through their EHCP. We will support this process to ensure they are prepared for this transition.