



Post: **OWLS Support Worker**

Reporting to: **Bereavement Service Co-ordinator**

Hours: **16 or 24 hours a week (state preferred hours on application). Permanent**

Salary: **£22,500 to £24,500 per annum pro rata dependent on experience**

Location: **Leeds**

Closing date: **29 February 2020**

Start date: **April/May 2020**

Launched in July 2019, OWLS (Overcoming Worry, Loss and Sadness) Bereavement Service is funded by donations to the Jane Tomlinson Appeal and provides bereavement support for children aged 4-11, and their families, in Leeds.

OWLS has four main interventions:

1. Family support, including delivering psychoeducation, providing resources from the OWLS Lending Library and signposting to other useful resources
2. School support, including children's assemblies and staff bereavement support training
3. Monthly peer support for bereaved children to come together and undertake a range of activities including mindfulness and memorial craft to support them in their grief
4. 1-to-1 therapy delivered by a child psychotherapist for children most severely affected by their bereavement or who are experiencing complicated grief or trauma.

As the service continues to grow and develop, we are looking to recruit a part time **OWLS Support Worker**. This is an exciting time to join OWLS Bereavement Service and make a real difference to the lives of bereaved children and their families.

To be successful in this role you will have experience of working in a similar position and have a passion for working with young people and their families. You will have excellent communication skills and the ability to build rapport and positive, empathetic working relationships with bereaved families, schools and external partnership agencies.

The successful applicant will have a reporting base in Leeds and will be required to travel regularly to schools throughout the region: own transport and a full, clean driver's licence are essential.

The **OWLS Support Worker's** core duties include:

- Assisting the Service Co-ordinator and Lead Therapist to meet the needs of the service
- Responding to initial enquiries from families, schools and other professionals
- Undertaking initial assessments - including delivering psychoeducation on how children experience grief - with families and schools to establish the required OWLS interventions
- Building and maintaining positive working relationships with service users, their families, schools and other agencies
- Delivering bereavement training to schools and external partnership agencies
- Delivering assemblies to primary school children on the themes of remembrance and loss
- Maintaining accurate databases and files through Microsoft Office and email
- Commitment to confidentiality and acting in accordance with GDPR
- Prompt reporting of safeguarding concerns to the Designated Safeguarding Lead
- Pro-rata weekend working to attend a proportion of the peer support activity days as agreed by the Service Co-ordinator

### Qualifications and Experience

Requirements	Essential	Desirable
Education/Training	Qualification /training relevant to the role	Bereavement support qualification /training
		Recognised professional qualification and accreditation by a recognised therapeutic organisation
Knowledge/Experience	Experience of working in a supportive capacity with children, young people and families	Experience of delivering workshops/education sessions
	Understanding of peer group work	Experience of networking and liaising with schools
	Awareness of ethnic and cultural issues	Experience of working with trauma/traumatic grief
Skills/Abilities	Ability to work alone and within a team	
	Excellent communication skills	
	Computer skills	
Personal Qualities	Highly motivated	
	Positive attitude	
	Passionate about supporting children and families	
	Ability to work under pressure and in difficult circumstances	
Other	Driving licence and access to vehicle to travel across the region to deliver support	

	Flexible to work occasional evenings and pro-rata weekends at peer support activity days or other events	
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This is an exciting opportunity where your existing skills, knowledge and experience can be developed further through our ongoing investment in your professional development.

Jane Tomlinson Appeal and OWLS Bereavement Service are committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and expect all staff to share this commitment. All successful applicants are required to complete an enhanced Disclosure and Barring Services (DBS) check as well as mandatory pre-employment checks which may also include checking social media profiles. We positively welcome applications from all sections of the community.

To apply for this position, please complete the application form (stating preferred hours) and return to Bereavement Service Co-ordinator Nicole Greenwood via [nicole@janetomlinsonappeal.com](mailto:nicole@janetomlinsonappeal.com) CVs are not accepted. Applications received after the closing date (**29 February 2020**) will not normally be considered.