



## Job Description – Play Therapist

### Key Role Information

Contract type: Service Level Agreement

Closing date: 12<sup>th</sup> June 2026

Reporting to: DSL for Pre-Prep (Head of Pre-Prep)

Start date: September 2026

We are seeking a qualified and experienced Play Therapist to provide support to pupils within a Prep school setting from age 2 – 13 and help them reach their full potential. The role involves delivering individual and/or small group play therapy sessions to support children's emotional wellbeing, social development, and mental health.

The successful candidate will work collaboratively with pastoral staff, teachers, and parents, while maintaining professional autonomy as a self-employed practitioner.

This is a self-employed position; the therapist will be responsible for their own tax, National Insurance, and professional indemnity insurance. Hours, session frequency, and fees will be agreed in advance. The therapist will supply their own materials unless otherwise agreed.

### Key responsibilities

- Plan and deliver structured play therapy sessions tailored to pupil's individual needs, to support the development of social, emotional and mental health needs in order to enable children's learning, engagement and relationships.
- Conduct initial assessments and develop appropriate therapeutic goals.
- Create a safe and supportive environment for pupils.
- Being a key point of contact for families in relation to therapy, supporting and collaborating with external professionals as required.
- Ensure that a coherent, consistent internal reporting system is adhered to for all therapies.
- Liaise with the Designated Safeguarding Team to inform about pertinent information whilst preserving the individual support for the child and family.
- Provide feedback reports in line with St Michael's Policies.



## Skills and Personal Attributes

- Excellent knowledge and understanding of play therapy
- Clear understanding of child development and pupils with special educational needs and disabilities;
- Strong understanding of mental health in children and young people
- Ability to support families and carers of pupils with challenging behaviour
- Ability to cope in high pressure, highly stressful contexts
- A commitment to promoting and safeguarding the welfare of pupils

## Qualifications and Training

- Degree level as a fully qualified therapist
- Associated registration with appropriate body (i.e. BAPT, PTUK, HCPC) and
- Engage in regular clinical supervision in line with professional body requirements (e.g. PTUK, BACP), including a minimum of monthly supervision, and maintain ongoing Continuing Professional Development (CPD)
- Experience of working as a therapist, and/or experience of working in a school setting.
- An understanding of the creative psychotherapy process/interventions in a school setting.
- Experience of operating in a classroom (or similar) environment with pupils with SEND who present challenging behaviour.
- Training and understanding of Safeguarding and Keeping Children Safe in Education (KCSIE)
- Further training or qualifications related to therapy, children and young people
- Right to work in the UK

