



BCT is committed to inclusion and diversity and welcomes applications from people with relevant life as well as professional experience, and those with disabilities. People from Black and Minority Ethnic communities are underrepresented in our organisation and we strongly welcome applications from this group.

Who we are:

For over 25 years Blatchington Court Trust (BCT) has been delivering services for children/ young people with a vision impairment and their families throughout Sussex. We are an innovative organisation aiming to empower clients and their families to live their best lives. We give support and advice on education and well-being, as well as providing an active events calendar.

Having recently re-structured our Well-Being Service – which includes counselling, coaching, mentoring and 1:1 “buddying” - we are now looking for experienced self-employed contracted counsellors to join a pool of sessional counsellors (on a flexible as and when needed basis) living in East Sussex, Brighton & Hove and West Sussex. You will either have a vision impairment yourself, experience of vision impairment, or at least an interest and willingness to learn about vision impairment. Ideally we would like you to be able to offer face-to-face sessions. We will provide you with sighted guide training if required. We will pay up to £50 per session provided by you paid by monthly invoicing. We cannot guarantee how much work we will refer to you as the service is offered to our clients on an “as needed” basis.

Counsellor: What you will do:

You will work with children and young people aged between 8 and 30 years who are living with a certified vision impairment. This will involve receiving referrals from our centralised referral team; contacting the referrer (who may or may not be the client themselves); assessing the client; providing up to 16 x 50-minute counselling sessions on a day/ time/ frequency agreed between yourself and the client/ parent. We would expect sessions to be weekly or fortnightly accordingly.

You will have:

- Accreditation with an appropriate professional body e.g. UKCP, BACP, HPC
- Minimum 3 years' experience of working with children/young people
- Your own Professional Indemnity Insurance. (which we will need to see)
- Knowledge and experience of safeguarding procedures and responsibilities, confidentiality procedures and data protection guidelines
- Skilled to work as an independent clinician involving analysing, evaluating and interpreting complex therapeutic situations
- Knowledge of issues facing vision impaired children/ young people
- Resilient attitude and ability to work in a way that is reflective, adaptable and non-judgmental and adheres to professional boundaries at all times

There will be an expectation that the role will generally involve working from our office in Hove or your own private counselling room.

If you would like to chat to someone about these roles please contact Alison Evans, Executive Director or Sophie Heiser, Manager – Advocacy & Well-Being on 01273 727222; alternatively please email wellbeing@blatchingtoncourt.org.uk.

Selection will be based on:

- receipt of your expression of interest,
- accompanying CV,
- copies of relevant professional certificates, and
- 2 referee statements.

If selected we will invite you to a face-to-face interview at our office.

Closing date for applications is Wednesday 18 May 2022 at 5pm.

Within our regional boundaries we are particularly keen to have counsellor support in areas local to and including Chichester, Crawley and Hastings.