

Grief Encounter: Lead/Senior Practitioner (LP)

Job Title: Grief Encounter Lead/Senior Practitioner

Location: Flexible (Home, Office or School Based)

Responsible to: Family Support Team Coordinator & Clinical Counselling Manager

Pay: Initial assessment fee: £75-£150 (depending on how many people are being assessed), check-in fee: £15-£40 (depending on how many people you need to check-in with) and time spent completing paperwork and attending essential meetings charged at the sessional rate: £35

Purpose of post:

We support bereaved children and their families to help alleviate the pain caused by the death of someone close. Our services are free, funded through the generosity of our supporters.

We are looking for enthusiastic and committed Lead/Senior Practitioners (LPs) to help us conduct clinical assessments for families and young people accessing our therapeutic services.

LPs are required to liaise with Grief Encounter counsellors who are allocated to provide 1:1 counselling with members of families within the lead/senior's caseload. LPs are required to take on an average of 2 families per month for assessment (or the equivalent of 6 families per quarter).

The Family Support Team (FST) is made up of Grief Encounter Lead/Senior Practitioners and is managed by the Family Support Team Coordinator (FSTC). The FST is a vital part of the Grief Encounter model and exists to ensure that our families are offered holding and containment, not only at their initial meeting but throughout their journey with Grief Encounter.

The Lead/Senior Practitioner has a crucial role in assuring that the unique needs of each family are communicated and understood throughout the organisation without the family's principal carer having to manage multiple relationships within Grief Encounter. In addition, the Lead/senior practitioner, as a more experienced Grief Encounter clinician, is also central in modelling to Grief Encounter counsellors our ways of working and best practice.

Key responsibilities and duties:

- To carry out assessments, signpost families to other services where appropriate and hold a (minimum) caseload of 2 families per month for assessment (or equivalent of 6 families per quarter year).
- Assist parents/carers/CYP/clinicians in their understanding of the impact of bereavement and respond appropriately to the emotional needs of the families we support.
- LPs are required to attend monthly internal supervision (which Grief Encounter provides) and use supervision to reflect and respond to cases effectively, ensuring that confidentiality and professional boundaries are maintained at all times.
- LPs are expected to attend Family Support Team Meetings which are held every 2 months and are arranged by the FSTC. Attendance at these meetings is mandatory as they form a crucial part of the communication process required to perform the LP role in accordance with best practice as laid out by Grief Encounter in the LP manual.
- LPs will be provided with a Grief Encounter email address and are expected to regularly check emails and maintain a proactive level of communication.
- LPs commit to ensuring that accurate, consistent and up-to-date records are kept for each of the families you are the principal contact for. The Family Record Log (FRL) is the document LPs use for storing this information, on a rolling basis and should be submitted monthly for the attention of HR.

Person Specification:

- A qualified counsellor/psychotherapist/arts therapist with relevant training and/or experience in bereavement and loss.
- Accredited with one of the following: BAAT, BACP, BPS, HCPC, UKCP
- A minimum of 3 years of post-qualification counselling experience (incorporating 250+ hours of clinical work).
- In-depth knowledge of the theories used in grief counselling.
- Experience in collaborating with bereaved family members, clinicians, and various professionals.
- Ability to stay informed on developments in the field of grief counselling.
- Exceptional interpersonal communication and recordkeeping skills.
- Ensure you have an understanding of, and comply with Grief Encounter's procedures for promoting and safeguarding the welfare of the families Grief Encounter supports.
- Good IT skills, including Office 365, Microsoft Outlook, Word and Excel. Able to work online via Microsoft Teams and Zoom.
- Excellent interpersonal and communication skills, both oral and written.
- Ability to work within a team. Excellent organisational and time management skills.

How to apply:

Copy the link below into your browser and complete the online application form

<https://griefencounter.wufoo.com/forms/mushcjz0hivrqv/>