



CENTRE FOR AUTISM
MIDDLETOWN

Service Provider Roles

1. The Centre's role as a Specialist Service Provider

The Centre has been established primarily as a specialist second level service provider to work in partnership with existing statutory and voluntary providers to develop and provide specialist autism services primarily in the education sectors. The Centre as originally conceived, is highly innovative. It provides a cohesive, trans-disciplinary assessment and learning support service combined with research and training together with opportunities for family support and professional development.

2. The Services offered by the Centre

The Centre has since 2007 been delivering a range of innovative services within the context of the following three core services:

- A Training and Advisory Service,
- A Learning Support and Assessment Service,
- A Research and Information Service.

The Centre has identified three core groups of clients for whom it develops and offer services to:

- Professionals working in the autism sector, mainly those based in the education sector but including some health professionals who are school based.
- Parents (and guardians) of children and young people on the autism spectrum. The Centre's work with this group is provided within an educational context.
- Children and young people on the autism spectrum.

The Centre has to date built its success in delivering services on three main foundations:

- The development of specialist services not available to the education sectors in either jurisdiction;
- The integration of these services with those provided by mainstream education providers,
- Flexibility of delivery to clients in terms of location and time.

3. The requirement for specialist support for the Centre's current services

The Centre has developed an effective programme of work spanning both jurisdictions and has gained recognition as an all-Ireland body providing specialist services to discerning client groups.

The North/South aspect of the Centre's programmes has enabled expertise to be developed and shared through extensive joint working and co-operation.

The Centre has worked to enhance and add value to existing practice and enable services across the island of Ireland to benefit from the Centre's expertise and training provision. It has forged effective partnerships with key stakeholders in education throughout Ireland.

The blend of professionals, from health and education backgrounds, employed in the Centre lends itself to the development of specialist courses and work which complement the work and services offered by other education partners.

The Centre employs a core of professional staff covering a range of disciplines however, from time to time additional specialist input is required to support the Centre's service delivery programme and for which it is not value for money to employ FT/PT staff. The Centre normally uses external service providers to supply these skills and expertise.

3. Specialist support is required in the following locations in southern ROI:

- Mid and South East of Ireland (Wicklow, Kildare, Wexford, Waterford)
- South West and West of Ireland (Limerick, Clare, Galway)
- Midlands (Meath, Westmeath)

Required specialist positions:

Qualified and experienced:

1. Occupational Therapists
2. Speech & Language Therapists
3. Behaviour Therapist

Applicants must be able to demonstrate the following essential criteria by the closing date of **12pm (noon) on Wednesday 30th September 2020:**

- Degree qualification in any of the above disciplines.
- Significant post-qualification experience delivering autism specific intervention therapy/strategies to children and young people with autism within an educational setting or similar environment.
- A proven track record in continuing your professional development (through appropriate courses of study) and attaining high level skills in your chosen professional area.
- Experience of working with a varied age range and/or ability range of children and young people with autism in relation to managing complex and/or challenging behaviours.

- Proven ability to use a range of autism specific strategies to enhance learning programmes.
- A current full driving licence and access to a vehicle or have access to a form of transport which will allow the post holder to fully satisfy the travel requirements of the post.

Applicants are invited to submit their CV in the first instance clearly detailing their qualifications and experience and where relevant, professional and clinical membership.

Applicants will also be required to complete a standard application form.

5. Interviews

Candidates will be required to attend for interview. Successful professionals will be invited to provide support throughout Northern Ireland and the Republic of Ireland on the Centre's behalf.

Successful professionals are required to hold a current driving licence and have access to a vehicle or access to a form of transport to fully satisfy the travel requirements of the post.

6. Service Provision

Any offer of service provision will be subject to a number of satisfactory pre-employment checks.

Provision of services shall be on a self-employed basis. You are required to provide confirmation that you have registered (or are currently registered) with HMRC/ Revenue on a self-employed basis.

7. Referees

Applicants are required to identify two professional referees from previous employers. Referees will only be approached after a service provision agreement has been reached.

8. Equal Opportunities Monitoring Form

Middletown Centre for Autism is committed to equality of opportunity. All applications are considered strictly on the basis of merit. Middletown Centre for Autism welcomes applications from all suitably qualified applicants irrespective of race; national, ethnic or cultural origin; nationality; religious belief or lack of religion or belief; political opinion, gender; gender reassignment status; sexual orientation; being married or a civil partner; pregnancy or maternity leave; whether or not you have dependants; disability; age or membership or non-membership of the travelling community.

Middletown Centre for Autism is required to monitor the gender, ethnic origin, community background and disability of candidates to ensure that equality of opportunity is measured and is effective. Applicants are therefore asked to complete the Equal Opportunities Monitoring Information

section as part of the application process. The information is purely for monitoring purposes. It is not made available to the selection panel and does not play a role in the decision-making process.

9. The Protection of Children and Vulnerable Adults (NI) Order 2003 (POCVA)

The post for which you are applying is governed by The Protection of Children and Vulnerable Adults (Northern Ireland) Order 2003. Before appointing anyone to such a post, it is imperative for the relevant check to be carried out by Access NI or the Garda Vetting Office, as appropriate. This check is to ensure those individuals who might be a risk to children and/or vulnerable adults are not appointed.

The check will indicate if you have a criminal record or if your name is included on the DHSSPS Disqualification from Working with Children List or included on the DE List and/or the DHSSPS Disqualified from Working with Vulnerable Adults List. Any information received will be treated confidentially and will be discussed with candidates before a final decision is reached. After the decision is made the information will be destroyed.

10. Return of Application Forms

Please request an application and monitoring form by emailing: hr@middletownautism.com or calling +44(0)2837515750

Closing Date: **12pm (noon) on Wednesday 30th September 2020.**

Candidates with a disability who may require assistance will be facilitated upon request. Candidates who wish to receive application forms and information packs in accessible formats are requested to advise Middletown Centre for Autism of their requirements as promptly as possible allowing for the fact that the closing date for receipt remains the same for all applicants as noted above.

Should you have any further queries, please email hr@middletownautism.com or call Middletown Centre for Autism on +44(0) 28 3751 5750.