

RICHARD HOUSE CHILDREN'S HOSPICE

Job Title: Palliative Care Nurse
Reporting to: Charge Nurse
Accountable to: Director of Family and Care Services

Vision

For communities to have space where they can journey together to create memories of living and dying.

Core Purpose

'To accompany families with children and young people with life-limiting or life-threatening conditions during the child or young person's journey through life to death, creating positive experiences along the way which become good memories for the future'.

Richard House is committed to the safeguarding of children and vulnerable adults. This post is subject to an enhanced Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) check.

Job Summary:

- To work as a member of the hospice care team providing a holistic package of care to children and young people and their families.
- To be responsible for the assessment, planning and delivery of care to children and young people.
- To work actively towards achieving the competencies for Senior Palliative Care Nurse.

Specific Responsibilities:

- To take responsibility for the care of named children during the working shift.
- To develop play and recreational activities with the assistance of the Play Specialist and provide appropriate stimulation for the children.
- To supervise nutritional intake and ensure dietary requirements are met.
- To work in partnership with families to assess, implement and evaluate plans of care to meet the individual needs of the child and the young person.
- To take appropriate action in relation to any safeguarding issue.

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- To be responsible for the safe storage, transcribing and administration of medicines following the medication policy and ensuring that prescribed medications are given as directed.
- To keep daily records of the children's activities and general health status, updating the care plan.
- To liaise with other care staff and ensure that the shift lead is kept informed to enable passing on of information at changes of shift.
- To be available to provide telephone advice to families and act as a resource to other professionals.
- To participate in discharge planning and in liaison with other professionals involved in the care of the child.
- To assist medical staff, chaperoning and acting as advocate for the child if the family are not present.
- To mentor and support new members of the Care Team.
- To maintain an awareness of different ethnic communities within the London area and ensure that the cultural needs of the children and families needs are met.

General Responsibilities:

- Co-operate with all staff in maintaining good relationships with outside agencies and the general public in order to uphold the Charity's image and win increased support for its work.
- Promote the safety and wellbeing of all children and young people at Richard House.
- Maintain confidentiality in all areas of work at Richard House.
- Ensure that your conduct within and outside Richard House does not conflict with professional expectations.
- Actively support and promote Richard House values.
- To support Richard House in community engagement initiatives.
- Take responsibility for your continuing professional development.
- Co-operate with all staff in maintaining harmonious inter-personal relationships.

Reviewed: September 2013
Next Review: 2016

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- Attend staff meetings and training as required.
- Ensure an awareness and observation of Fire and Health and Safety Regulations.
- Ensure the respect, dignity and rights to privacy of the child or young person as far as possible.
- Participate in regular Supervision sessions with your Line Manager.
- Carry out any other duties as are within the scope, spirit and purpose of the job, the title of the post and its grading as requested by your Line Manager or his or her higher level of authority.

Note: This job description reflects the present requirements of the post. As duties and responsibilities change and develop, the job description will be reviewed and is subject to amendment in consultation with the post holder.

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The essential and desirable characteristics of the post holder are indicated by "X".

Please Note:

****These criteria will be assessed during:***

- S** – Shortlisting stage
- I** – Interview
- T** – Test or exercise
- V** – Value Based Interview

Where a criterion is assessed during the shortlisting stage, it is essential that you cover how you meet this in your application form.

| CATEGORY | ESSENTIAL | DESIRABLE | ASSESSED |
|---|------------------|------------------|-----------------|
| Knowledge, Training and Experience | | | |
| RNC/RNLD | X | | S+I |
| Knowledge and experience for caring for children and families with complex health needs | X | | S+I |
| Ability and willingness to work towards care of children with tracheostomies, ventilator dependent children, children on syringe drivers, complex symptom management plans, children with central lines | X | X | S+I+T |
| Understanding the benefit and impact of play | X | | I+T |

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|--|----------|--|------------|
| Skills, Analytical, Planning and Organisation | | | |
| Effectively use time to meet children/young people and families needs in a variety of settings | X | | V |
| Commitment to family centred care | X | | I+V |
| Willingness to learn and develop new skills | X | | I+S |
| Ability to take responsibility for adopting best practice | X | | I |
| Ability to assess and evaluate clinical care | X | | I+T |
| Ability to manage and assess risk | X | | I+V |
| Shared values | | | |
| Contribute to positive environment | X | | V |
| Treat everyone with respect and dignity | X | | V |
| Responsive, proactive and caring | X | | V |
| Safeguard our stakeholders | X | | V |
| Work in partnership to ensure high quality services | X | | V |

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|---|----------|--|--------------|
| Passionate about achieving excellence | X | | V |
| Put children and families first | X | | V |
| Establish and maintain professional boundaries and professional integrity in the face of a death, dying and adversity | X | | V |
| Personal qualities | | | |
| Ability to communicate sensitively | X | | I+T+V |
| Ability to reflect on practice and its effects on others | X | | I |
| Confidentiality | X | | I+V |
| Excellent written and interpersonal skills | X | | S+I+T |
| Miscellaneous | | | |
| Ability to work flexible hours | X | | S+I |