



### ROLE PROFILE

<b>Role Title</b>	Occupational Therapist
<b>Location</b>	Essex
<b>Commitment</b>	1 hour per week (paid)
<b>Report To</b>	Lead Therapist

### THE ROLE

As a Paediatric Occupational Therapist for the Transforming Autism Project you will work closely with the child psychotherapist to jointly implement the support programme for young autistic children and their families.

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- More specifically, the Paediatric Occupational Therapist will:
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- Assess separately and jointly with the child psychotherapist the needs of the child and their families, using standardised tests and other assessment methods (e.g., observations, video-recordings and interview notes)
- Plan support required jointly with the child psychotherapist
- Conduct home-visits to provide direct support to children and their families
- Contribute to writing reports for the family and organisation, as required
- Maintain assessment home-visit records in a systematic and organised way
- Participate in regular meeting with the child psychotherapist and child psychotherapist Team Leader
- Report any concerns to child psychotherapist Team Leader and provide suggestions and recommendations for action
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- The Paediatric Occupational Therapist may also:
- contribute to other activities such as the TAP webinars and other forums providing expert advice.

### PERSON SPECIFICATION

- An accredited Professional qualification occupational therapy
- Experience of using standardised tests and non-standardised assessment tools
- Understanding of safeguarding requirements and relevant legislation and of data protection requirements and relevant legislation
- Understanding of confidentiality and in service provision and their limitations
- Excellent written and oral communication skills
- Highly effective organisational and time management skills
- High level of attention to detail
- Proactive team player
- Able to problem solve and develop solutions
- Functional IT skills, e.g., using Microsoft Office
- Excellent interpersonal skills, able to build rapport when meeting *new people*
- Ability to work collaboratively across professional boundaries in partnership with colleagues

- Ability to develop positive relationships with autistic children
- Ability to establish positive and effective working relationships with other members of the team
- Self –motivated and the ability to work flexibly
- Discreet and can maintain confidentiality
- Can act on own initiative within specified boundaries
- A recognition of boundaries of own expertise and the need to seek advice
- An ability to use own initiative and be pro-active in adopting a problem-solving approach

*The successful candidate will be strongly aligned with the values and the approach of the charity, and passionate about the changes we are trying to make in the lives of autistic children. They will ideally also take part in some of our team activities with our community of volunteers on a voluntary basis.*

## OUR ORGANIZATION

We provide crucial support for young autistic children and their families at an age when we can make a profound life-long difference. Our pioneering First Steps programme (created in association with Norland College and based on a therapeutic framework they created for us) focuses on giving families the tools they need to understand and interact with their autistic children in ways that make them feel understood, affirmed and nurtured, strengthening relationships and facilitating the child's optimal development so that they are able to fulfil their true potential.

Our new online parent groups, facilitated by our exceptional Lead Therapist, aims to take the principle learning from this and make it available to many more families so that more lives can be transformed.

Unlike many other autism organisations, we do not focus on the perceived limitations or impairments associated with autism, but instead propose our own unique and empowering conception of it, highlighting the profound sensitivity inherent in the autistic condition as well as other positive aspects which, if nurtured appropriately, can lead to very positive outcomes. This was first presented in our [TED talk](#), which has now been seen by well over 300,000 people.

We are currently fundraising to enable more families to partake in First Steps, and over time, we aspire to open our own state of the art therapeutic centre in the UK.

We also challenge conventional perceptions of autism and offer our own radical and empowering perspective.

This can be seen in our [TED talk](#), which has now been viewed by well over 200,000 people and received great acclaim from the autistic community.

We are a strongly values-driven organisation, and are committed to manifesting our values in how we relate to each other, in what we are trying to achieve and in how we do it. Please visit <https://transformingautism.org/values/> to find out about these values before your interview, and to watch a video about them recorded by our founder.

The Transforming Autism Project value diversity and we're committed to creating an inclusive culture where everyone is able to be themselves and to reach their full potential.

For more information or to apply, please e-mail a copy of your CV to [jobs@transformingautism.org](mailto:jobs@transformingautism.org). We aim to respond to your email within 5-10 days.

To find out more about the Transforming Autism Project, please visit:

[www.transformingautism.org](http://www.transformingautism.org)

