



GORDONSTOUN

Broader experiences, broader minds.

SCHOOL COUNSELLOR

Reports to: Assistant Head Wellbeing

Job Purpose: Gordonstoun has been leading the way in character education for more than 80 years. Our uniquely broad curriculum provides challenge in the classroom, at sea and in the mountains, on the stage and on the sports fields and enables students to discover the truth in our motto – Plus Est En Vous – there is more in you. The wellbeing and mental, emotional and physical health of our students is at the core of what we do, and the key focus of this role is to provide outstanding counselling support to our student community.

Major responsibilities

- To provide an expert and discrete counselling service to support the student community
- To develop best-practice approaches to student counselling across the School
- To keep abreast of counselling developments as they relate to young people and to implement counselling change where it benefits outcomes for students
- To lead in the training of school staff to support the counselling function
- To advise staff on counselling matters as they relate to students
- To communicate clearly and professionally with parents of those being counselled as and when appropriate
- To work closely with the Assistant Head Wellbeing to ensure any strategies relating to individual student support are implemented across the School in a discrete and supportive manner
- To develop and implement whole-school initiatives for supporting emotional, physical and mental health and wellbeing
- To be a champion for mental, physical and emotional health and wellbeing across the School
- To support our parent body in developing an understanding of emotional, physical and mental health and wellbeing issues as they relate to children and young people
- To ensure all appropriate documentation/recording relating to students is shared as and when appropriate via the School's Wellbeing Information System

General

- Comply with Gordonstoun's policies and procedures on Child Protection and Health and Safety.
- Contribute in a positive way to the ethos of the school in line with Gordonstoun's values
- Carry out any other task as required from time to time in order to support the school.

Please note that this is illustrative of the general nature and level of responsibility of the role. It is not a comprehensive list of all tasks that the School Counsellor will carry out. The postholder may be required to do other duties appropriate to the level of the role, as directed by the Head of Senior School/Junior School.

PERSON SPECIFICATION

Attributes	Essential	Desirable	Assessment Method
Experience	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Experience of working with children and young people ● A minimum of three years' experience as a counsellor 		Application Form (external candidates)
Education & qualifications	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Hold a relevant counselling qualification ● Current membership with the British Association for Counselling and Psychotherapy (BACP) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● CBT qualified ● Specialist in child and adolescent mental health ● Trained in child and adolescent grief counselling 	Expression of interest (internal candidate) Interview
Skills/aptitudes (general)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Excellent communication, organisational and management skills ● Discretion and sensitivity 		
Interpersonal skills & social skills	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● An understanding of the importance of promoting and safeguarding the welfare of children ● Evidence of excellent verbal and written communication skills and the ability to actively listen ● Common sense and initiative ● Any ability to relate closely to children and young people ● Ability to motivate others and to work independently and as part of a team 		
Safeguarding	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Suitable to work with children ● A full PVG check will be completed on the successful candidate 		