



Exciting new opportunity for an Senior Occupational Therapist

Introduction

The Lake District Calvert Trust (LDCT) specialises in providing challenging outdoor activities for people with a wide range of disabilities. We have over 40 years' experience as a specialist centre, enabling children and adults with disabilities to take part in adventurous activities – which can often have lifechanging outcomes. The current Centre receives around 4,000 visitors each year staying at our 60bed residential centre near Bassenthwaite in the Lake District.

Our Mission

Our mission is to enable people with disabilities to achieve their potential through the challenge of adventurous activities in the countryside, in order for them to develop, change perceptions and make positive and lasting changes to their lives.

A new challenge for LDCT

In recent years, LDCT has seen a growing demand for support and rehabilitation following an acquired brain injury (ABI). Longstanding views held that improvements were unlikely after 6 months, however recent research suggests that the brain is capable of far more improvement than previously understood. The research highlights the opportunity for a new holistic approach to rehabilitation, encompassing physical exercise, experiential learning, and support in developing a new self-concept after a life-changing injury.

Working with leading clinicians and academics, LDCT is developing a new approach to brain injury rehabilitation. This focuses on 'learning through doing' in the outdoors, supported by an interdisciplinary team in a purpose-built residential centre. It marries the latest thinking in neurology with LDCT's expertise in accessible, life-changing outdoor challenges. This innovative Rehabilitation Centre will help people with ABI reach their full potential for recovery, not only improving their physical and psychological wellbeing, but also increasing their self-confidence and independence.

The Calvert Trust Neuro-Rehabilitation Centre - Calvert Reconnections

Calvert Reconnections is a specialist residential centre for people in the post-acute phase following an ABI. We tailor a programme to meet each individual's needs and goals. Together with our expert advisors, we have identified factors which are likely to lead to significantly improved outcomes:

- **Physical exercise** reinforces the adaptive processes of the brain post-injury: helping the brain 'scaffold' to compensate for damage. It also improves people's mental health, outlook and wellbeing.
- **Outdoor Activities** have been demonstrated to improve people's understanding of themselves and their abilities, post brain injury, with long-lasting benefits
- **Group work and a social environment** have also been identified as key factors in recovery after an ABI.

Currently there are no facilities available in the UK to comprehensively address this critical formula following the initial, post-injury rehabilitation.

LDCT is committed to providing person centred rehabilitation to each participant through delivering programmes of support, designed to meet participants specific needs.

Calvert Reconnections ABI centre is based at one of LDCT's existing properties, Old Windebowe in Keswick. Refurbishment of the building was completed in September 2019, with the service opening for the first time in Autumn 2020. This post is an exciting opportunity as part of the expansion of the inter-disciplinary team (IDT), as we prepare to open. There has been a high level of interest in the service, with several referrals assessed by the Clinical Lead and people keen to start the next phase of their rehabilitation at Calvert Reconnections.

The role: Senior Occupational Therapist

- The Senior Occupational Therapist will be an enthusiastic and motivated person who can combine their clinical skills with a passion for outdoor activity. We expect candidates to be able to demonstrate several years of experience as an Occupational Therapist, working with people with a range of neurological conditions, specifically post-ABI. Experience of working as an OT in residential and/or inpatient settings would be of benefit. We will look for specific experience in neuro-rehabilitation management and an interest and ability to operate in an outdoor environment with clients and support staff.

We are looking for an individual who can:-

- Be an integral member of our Interdisciplinary Team (IDT), providing person-centred occupational therapy for up to 10 participants with an Acquired Brain Injury. We will look for specific interest in neurorehabilitation and ability to operate in an outdoor environment with participants.
- Complete occupational therapy assessments, person centred goal setting, individualised intervention plans and clear evaluation. Be creative in your problem solving and planning to support individuals to achieve their potential. You will be integral to the design, delivery and evaluation of our therapeutic programme and also how we integrate the need for functional rehabilitation in everyday function (PADLS/ADLS) with the rehabilitation we provide in the outdoors.
- You will work closely with the Clinical Lead and other members of the IDT (including other OTs) to coordinate the delivery of safe and effective rehabilitation via our team of Neuro Rehabilitation Coaches.
- Enable individuals by contributing to the IDT plan and actively support them to engage in activities of daily living, outdoor activities, vocational opportunities and in the transition process onwards from Calvert Reconnections.

Duties & Responsibilities

- To work collaboratively within the interdisciplinary team, contributing occupational therapy expertise to ensure we deliver outstanding assessment, planning and enabling support for individuals with ABI.
- Participate in the provision of therapeutic activities, using a wide range of approaches to suit the participants varying needs.
- Enable clients to achieve their rehab potential and achieve their goals.

- Enable clients to repatriate back to their longer term environments, which is a key component of this role and the Calvert Reconnections rehabilitation programme.
- Assist with the training of staff, students and others in principles of occupational therapy.
- Encourage independence and personal choice and help create an environment which is conducive to participants with varied and complex needs.
- Provide evidence-based practice that is outcome focused.
- Take an active role in your own personal and professional development.
- Maintain effective and current communication with the team regarding participant needs and goals.
- Ensure accurate, contemporaneous, confidential record keeping, including use of electronic participant records, in accordance with our Information Governance policy.
- Ensure work is conducted in accordance with Calvert Reconnections policies & procedures at all times. This includes work relating to activity planning, delivery and use of equipment/facilities.
- Liaise effectively at all stages with family, professionals and organisations involved in the participants rehabilitation programme, in line with agreements set regarding data sharing and confidentiality.
- Actively participate in training, development and supervision.
- Preserve and act in a manner that promotes the Calvert Reconnections high quality reputation and integrity.
- Work within a range of different settings including Calvert Reconnections, Calvert Stables, Calvert Lakes, vocational settings in/around Keswick and delivering outdoor activities in the Lake District National Park.
- Adhere to safe working practice at all times, complying with policies, procedures, rules and regulations in order to ensure the safety of participants.
- To be responsible for your own transport arrangements for getting to/from Calvert Reconnections. Access to a people carrier will be provided during hours of work for driving participants to/from community activities.
- To undertake any other duties as required.

Person Specification

	Essential	Desirable
Qualifications	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Diploma/Degree in Occupational Therapy. • HCPC Registration • Be willing to undertake further study to ensure you can meet the requirements of this diverse role. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Member of RCOT SS NP
Experience	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Significant post graduate experience in a relevant specialist setting. • Experience working with individuals with acquired brain injuries or other neurological conditions. • Multidisciplinary and multiagency team working. Experience in cognitive rehabilitation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Interest in using outdoor activity as part of a rehabilitation programme. • Experience of groups in a range of outdoor activities. • Knowledge of local facilities and services. • Experience using the outdoors for personal development.
Skills	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Independent practitioner with an ability to develop innovation in practice. • Ability to teach skills relating to the Occupational Therapy process. • Experience of autonomously managing a complex caseload. • Understanding of team dynamics and the ability to build and maintain relationships. An ability to work collaboratively. • Effective written, verbal and non-verbal communication skills. • Presentation and training skills. • Ability to analyse professional and ethical issues. • Documented evidence of continuing professional development. • Ability to reflect and critically appraise own performance. • Competent in Microsoft Word, Excel and Outlook. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Excellent IT skills.
Other	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Committed to person-centred non-discriminatory practice. 	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Organised, shows initiative committed to personal development. • Dignity and respect for others. • Ability to cope with and manage change. • An interest and passion for the outdoor environment. • Commitment, enthusiasm and flexibility to meet the demands of the role. • A satisfactory DBS check and a full driving licence are required for this position. 	
--	--	--

Conditions of Service

This role requires considerable flexibility, enthusiasm and dedication. The responsibilities of this job may well involve some irregular hours as well as both weekend and evening work. Commitment and an appropriate work ethos are essential.

Salary: Dependant on experience

Contract: Part Time hours - negotiable

Hours: This may include some weekend work, evening sessions and overnight on-call responsibilities.

Other: The post will be subject to checks with the Disclosure & Barring Service (DBS)

How to apply

To request an application pack please contact Claire Appleton, Head of Service;
ClaireA@CalvertReconnections.org.uk or on 017687 85381