

**Staff Nurse (Mental Health)**

**Job Specification & Terms and Conditions**

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| **Job Title and Grade Code** | **Staff Nurse (Mental Health)**  (Grade Code: 2674) |
| **Campaign Reference** | To be completed by Recruiter. |
| **Closing Date** | To be completed by Recruiter. |
| **Proposed Interview Date (s)** | To be completed by Recruiter. |
| **Taking up Appointment** | A start date will be indicated at job offer stage. |
| **Location of Post** | Insert location  There is currently xx permanent / specified purpose / part time / whole-time vacancy available in xxxxxxxxxx  A panel may be formed as a result of this campaign for xxxxxxxxxxx from which current and future, permanent and specified purpose vacancies of full or part-time duration may be filled. |
| **Informal Enquiries** | Please provide name & contact details for person who will deal with informal enquiries. |
| **Details of Service** | Provide details to the following types of questions:   * What service does the unit provide? * What client group is served by the unit? * What are the possible future developments for the service? * What is the team structure? * What area is covered by this service?   There is no limit to the text that can be inserted here. Please use this section to highlight the service and generate interest in the service and job being recruited for |
| **Reporting Relationship** | Please outline reporting relationships associated with the post:   * To whom will the job holder report? * Who will report to the job holder?   The post holder:   * Is professionally accountable to the Director of Nursing or designated officer. * Will report to the Clinical Nurse Manager 2 or designated officer. |
| **Key Working Relationships** | Provide a brief overview of the types of people that the job holder will typically engage with in the fulfilment of the duties and responsibilities of their role. This overview should provide the applicant with a sense for the key working relationships associated with the role. |
| **Purpose of the Post** | What is the overall high-level purpose of the job?  The Staff Nurse (Mental Health) will assess, plan, implement and evaluate care to the highest professional and ethical standards within the model of nursing care practiced in the relevant care setting. The staff nurse will provide holistic, person centred care, promoting optimum independence and enhancing the quality of life for service users. |
| **Principal Duties and Responsibilities** | *The Staff Nurse (Mental Health) will:*  **Professional Responsibilities**   * Practice Nursing according to the Code of Professional Conduct as laid down by Bord Altranais agus Cnáimhseachais na hÉireann (Nursing and Midwifery Board of Ireland) and Professional Clinical Guidelines. * Adhere to national, regional and local Health Service Executive (HSE) guidelines, policies, protocols and legislation. * Work within their scope of practice and take measures to develop and maintain the competence necessary for professional practice. * Maintain a high standard of professional behaviour and be accountable for their practice. * Be aware of ethical policies and procedures which pertain to their area of practice. * Respect and maintain the privacy, dignity and confidentiality of the patient. * Follow appropriate lines of authority within the nurse management structure.   **Clinical Practice**   * Staff will work in accordance with the principles and values of recovery as described in the National Framework for Recovery for Irish Mental Health Services 2018-2020. * Deliver the nursing care of an assigned group of patients within a best practice / evidence based framework. * Manage a designated caseload. * Promote the health, welfare and social wellbeing of patients within our services. * Actively participate as a multi-disciplinary / inter-disciplinary team member in all aspects of service delivery including case conferences, clinical meetings, team meetings. * Assess, plan, implement and evaluate individual person centred care programmes within an agreed framework and in accordance with best practice. * Develop and promote good interpersonal relationships with patients, their families / social network supports and the interdisciplinary care team, in the promotion of person centred care. * Ensure that care is carried out in an empathetic and ethical manner and that the dignity and spiritual needs of the patient are respected. * Promote and recognise the patients’ social and cultural dimensions of care and the need for links with their local community. * Collaborate and work closely with the patient, their family, the multi-disciplinary / inter-disciplinary team, external agencies and services to facilitate discharge planning, continuity of care and specific care requirements. * Provide appropriate and timely education and information to the patient, their family and be an advocate for the individual patient and for their family. * Report and consult with senior nursing management on clinical issues, as appropriate. * Maintain appropriate and accurate written and electronic nursing records and reports regarding patient care in accordance with local / national / professional guidelines. * Participate in innovation and change in the approach to patient care delivery particularly in relation to new research findings, evidence based practice and advances in treatment. * Participate in clinical audit and review. * Participate in community needs assessment and ongoing community delivery of care as appropriate. * Undertake Key Worker role as appropriate. * Promote a positive health concept with patients and colleagues and contribute to health promotion and disease prevention initiatives of the Health Service Executive. * Delegate to and supervise the work of other grades of staff within the remit of their role, as appropriate. * Demonstrate flexibility by rotating / assisting in other units / care settings as required in order to meet nursing resource needs and the requirements of the integrated services programme (ISP). * Refer clients to other services, as required.   **Clinical Governance**   * Participate in clinical governance structures within the local / regional / national clinical governance framework. * Contribute to ongoing monitoring, audit and evaluation of the service, as appropriate. * Accurately record and report all complaints to appropriate personnel according to local service policy. * Participate in the development of policies / procedures and guidelines to support compliance with current legal requirements, where existing, for the safe storage and administration of medicines and other clinical products. * Participate in the development of policies / procedures and guidelines with health, safety, fire, risk and management personnel and participate in their development in conjunction with relevant staff and in compliance with statutory obligations. * Observe, report and take appropriate action on any matter which may be detrimental to patient care or wellbeing. * Be aware of, and comply with, the principles of clinical governance including quality, risk and health and safety and be individually responsible for clinical governance, risk management / health and safety issues in their area of work. * Participate in the development, promotion and implementation of infection prevention and control guidelines. * Adhere to organisational dress code. * Assume responsibility for and coordinate the management of the unit / care setting in the absence of the Clinical Nurse Manager.   **Education, Training & Development**   * Take responsibility for own competency and learning and development needs and actively contribute to the learning and development of the interdisciplinary team. * Complete all mandatory training as deemed necessary by the Director of Nursing and Bord Altranais agus Cnáimhseachais na hÉireann (Nursing and Midwifery Board of Ireland). * Participate in performance evaluation / review with their line manager, identifying areas for improvement and appropriate plans / measures to achieve them. * Provide feedback to the Clinical Nurse Manager or the designated officer with regard to compilation of proficiency assessments for students in the clinical setting. * Develop and use reflective practice techniques to inform and guide practice as part of their daily work. * Identify and contribute to the continual enhancement of learning opportunities within a population health framework. * Participate in the clinical / workplace induction of all new nursing and support staff. * Contribute to the identification of training needs pertinent to the clinical area. * Develop teaching skills and participate in the planning and implementation of orientation, training and teaching programmes for nursing students and other health-care staff, as appropriate. * Having undergone appropriate training, act as a mentor / preceptor or clinical assessor for students. * Participate in the development of performance indicators in conjunction with the Clinical Nurse Manager. * Participate in innovation and change in the approach to service user care delivery, and contribute to the service planning process based on best practice and under the direction of Nurse Management / Nurse Practice Development, particularly in relation to new research findings and advances in treatment.   **Health & Safety**   * Have a working knowledge of the Health Information and Quality Authority (HIQA) Standards as they apply to the role for example, Standards for Healthcare, National Standards for the Prevention and Control of Healthcare Associated Infections, Hygiene Standards etc.and comply with associated HSE protocols for implementing and maintaining these standards as appropriate to the role. * Support, promote and actively participate in sustainable energy, water and waste initiatives to create a more sustainable, low carbon and efficient health service.   **Administration**   * Ensure that records are safeguarded and managed as per HSE / local policy and in accordance with relevant legislation. * Work closely with colleagues across the integrated services programme in order to provide a seamless service delivery to the client within the integrated services programme. * Maintain records and submit activity data / furnish appropriate reports to the Director of Nursing, as required. * Contribute to policy development and formulation, performance monitoring, business planning and budgetary control. * Maintain professional standards including patient and data confidentiality. * Contribute to the development and implementation of information sharing protocols, audit systems, referral pathways, individual care plans and shared care arrangements. * Contribute to ongoing monitoring, audit and evaluation of the service, as appropriate * Ensure that the care setting is maintained in good order using appropriate models, that supplies are adequate and that all equipment is in good working order and ready for immediate use. * Ensure that equipment is safe to use and report any malfunctions in a timely manner. * Assist with ordering of supplies as required and ensure the appropriate and efficient use of supplies is made and exercise economy in the use of consumables.   **The above Job Specification is not intended to be a comprehensive list of all duties involved and consequently, the post holder may be required to perform other duties as appropriate to the post which may be assigned to him / her from time to time and to contribute to the development of the post while in office.** |
| **Eligibility Criteria**  **Qualifications and/ or experience** | **Candidates must have at the latest date of application:**  **Please insert Eligibility Criteria for the post - see HSE website at:** [**http://hse.ie/eng/staff/Jobs/Eligibility\_Criteria/**](http://hse.ie/eng/staff/Jobs/Eligibility_Criteria/)  Please note that appointment to and continuation in posts that require statutory registration is dependent upon the post holder maintaining annual registration in the relevant division of the register maintained by:  Bord Altranais agus Cnáimhseachais na hÉireann (Nursing Midwifery Board Ireland)  **Health**  A candidate for and any person holding the office must be fully competent and capable of undertaking the duties attached to the office and be in a state of health such as would indicate a reasonable prospect of ability to render regular and efficient service.  **Character**  Each candidate for and any person holding the office must be of good character. |
| **Post Specific Requirements** | **This section may be used to specify that candidates must demonstrate particular experience deemed necessary for safe and effective performance in the role**  **e.g.**   * **depth and breadth of experience in providing a service to marginalised communities** * **depth and breadth of experience of working in a High Dependency Unit in an Acute setting** * **depth and breadth of experience of delivering concurrent, multiple projects.**   **Post specific requirements mostly relate to a specific role and might include education / experience required for a specific post in a specific location / may include specialisms e.g. ICU course or experience. We don’t include ‘Nice to have’ / ‘Desirable’ criteria – either a criterion is essential to the role or it isn't. Avoid including ‘numerical data’ here e.g. must have x no. of months / years’ experience in XXX. Instead it is more helpful to detail what it is you want the applicants to know / be able to do.**  **For additional information on work context and / or role specific duties, please click** [**here**](#Additional_info)**.** |
| **Other requirements specific to the post** | **Please outline if there are specific practical requirements that are specific to the post e.g.**   * **have access to appropriate transport to fulfil the requirements of the role** * **participate in an on-call rota** |
| **Skills, competencies and/or knowledge** | **Professional Knowledge & Experience**  *For example:*   * Demonstrates practitioner competence and professionalism in order to carry out the duties and responsibilities of the role. * Practices nursing care safely and effectively, fulfilling their professional responsibility within their scope of practice. * Practices in accordance with legislation affecting nursing practice. * Displays evidence-based clinical knowledge in making decisions regarding client care. * Demonstrates a commitment to continuing professional development. * Demonstrates a willingness to develop IT skills relevant to the role.   **Planning and Organising Skills**  *For example:*   * Demonstrates evidence of effective planning and organising skills. * Demonstrates the ability to manage deadlines and effectively handle multiple tasks. * Demonstrates an awareness of resource management and the importance of value for money. * Demonstrates flexibility and adaptability in their approach to work, is open to change and new ways of working.   **Building and Maintaining Relationships**  *For example:*   * Demonstrates the ability to work on own initiative as well as part of a team. * Demonstrates the ability to build and maintain relationships including the ability to work effectively as part of a multi-disciplinary team. * Demonstrates an awareness and appreciation of the patient / client and their families * Uses diplomacy and tact in fraught situations and can diffuse tense situations comfortably. * Ensures that care is carried out in an empathetic and ethical manner.   **Analysis, Problem Solving and Decision-Making Skills**  *For example:*   * Demonstrates evidence-based decision-making and shows effective analytical and problem solving skills. * Uses a range of information sources and knows how to access relevant information to address issues. * Takes an overview of complex problems before generating solutions; anticipates implications / consequences of different solutions. * Demonstrate resilience and composure.   **Commitment to Providing a Quality Service**  *For example:*   * Demonstrates a commitment to providing a quality service. * Demonstrates evidence of the ability to care for clients in a non-judgemental manner. * Takes action and informs relevant people when problems arise. * Pays attention to detail, ensures that all records and data are up to date and available when required.   **Communication Skills**  *For example:*   * Demonstrates excellent communication skills (written and verbal) so as to effectively carry out the duties and responsibilities of the role. * Communicates in a clear, effective and sensitive manner, listening and ensuring that messages are clearly understood / tailors the method as appropriate. * Anticipates and recognises the emotional reactions of others when delivering sensitive messages. * Demonstrates the ability to influence others effectively. * Is assertive as appropriate. |
| **Campaign Specific Selection Process**  **Ranking/Shortlisting / Interview** | A ranking and or shortlisting exercise may be carried out on the basis of information supplied in your application form. The criteria for ranking and or shortlisting are based on the requirements of the post as outlined in the eligibility criteria and skills, competencies and/or knowledge section of this job specification. Therefore it is very important that you think about your experience in light of those requirements.  Failure to include information regarding these requirements may result in you not being called forward to the next stage of the selection process.  Those successful at the ranking stage of this process (where applied) will be placed on an order of merit and will be called to interview in ‘bands’ depending on the service needs of the organisation.  The HSE is an equal opportunities employer. |
| **Code of Practice** | The Health Service Executive will run this campaign in compliance with the Code of Practice prepared by the Commission for Public Service Appointments (CPSA).  The CPSA is responsible for establishing the principles that should be followed when making an appointment. These are set out in the CPSA Code of Practice. The Code outlines the standards that should be adhered to at each stage of the selection process and sets out the review and appeal mechanisms open to candidates should they be unhappy with a selection process.  The CPSA Code of Practice can be accessed via <https://www.cpsa.ie/> |
| The reform programme outlined for the Health Services may impact on this role and as structures change the Job Specification may be reviewed.  This Job Specification is a guide to the general range of duties assigned to the post holder. It is intended to be neither definitive nor restrictive and is subject to periodic review with the employee concerned. | |

**Staff Nurse (Mental Health)**

**Terms and Conditions of Employment**

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| **Tenure** | The current vacancy available is **permanent/temporary** and **whole time/part-time.**  The post is pensionable. A panel may be created from which permanent and specified purpose vacancies of full or part time duration may be filled. The tenure of these posts will be indicated at “expression of interest” stage.  Appointment as an employee of the Health Service Executive is governed by the Health Act 2004 and the Public Service Management (Recruitment and Appointments) Act 2004 and Public Service Management (Recruitment and Appointments) Amendment Act 2013. |
| **Remuneration** | The Salary scale for the post is: **PLEASE INSERT (Pro Rata - part-time)**  **PLEASE INSERT the most recent salary scales for the role and grade code.**  New appointees to any grade start at the minimum point of the scale. Incremental credit will be applied for recognised relevant service in Ireland and abroad (Department of Health Circular 2/2011). Incremental credit is normally granted on appointment, in respect of previous experience in the Civil Service, Local Authorities, Health Service and other Public Service Bodies and Statutory Agencies. |
| **Working Week** | The standard working week applying to the post is to be confirmed at Job Offer stage.  **Please include the following paragraph for posts that traditionally worked 9-5, Monday to Friday. Do not include for nursing and other posts that are required to work shifts over a 7-day week.**  HSE Circular 003-2009 “Matching Working Patterns to Service Needs (Extended Working Day / Week Arrangements); Framework for Implementation of Clause 30.4 of Towards 2016” applies. Under the terms of this circular, all new entrants and staff appointed to promotional posts from Dec 16th, 2008 will be required to work agreed roster / on call arrangements as advised by their line manager. Contracted hours of work are liable to change between the hours of 8am-8pm over seven days to meet the requirements for extended day services in accordance with the terms of the Framework Agreement (Implementation of Clause 30.4 of Towards 2016). |
| **Annual Leave** | The annual leave associated with the post will be confirmed at Contracting stage. |
| **Superannuation** | This is a pensionable position with the HSE. The successful candidate will upon appointment become a member of the appropriate pension scheme. Pension scheme membership will be notified within the contract of employment. Members of pre-existing pension schemes who transferred to the HSE on the 01st January 2005 pursuant to Section 60 of the Health Act 2004 are entitled to superannuation benefit terms under the HSE Scheme which are no less favourable to those which they were entitled to at 31st December 2004 |
| **Age** | The Public Service Superannuation (Age of Retirement) Act, 2018\* set 70 years as the compulsory retirement age for public servants.  ***\* Public Servants not affected by this legislation:***  Public servants joining the public service or re-joining the public service with a 26 week break in service, between 1 April 2004 and 31 December 2012 (new entrants) have no compulsory retirement age.  Public servants, joining the public service or re-joining the public service after a 26 week break, after 1 January 2013 are members of the Single Pension Scheme and have a compulsory retirement age of 70. |
| **Probation** | Every appointment of a person who is not already a permanent officer of the Health Service Executive or of a Local Authority shall be subject to a probationary period of 12 months as stipulated in the Department of Health Circular No.10/71. |
| **Protection for Persons Reporting Child Abuse Act 1998** | As this post is one of those designated under the Protection for Persons Reporting Child Abuse Act 1998, appointment to this post appoints one as a designated officer in accordance with Section 2 of the Act.  You will remain a designated officer for the duration of your appointment to your current post or for the duration of your appointment to such other post as is included in the categories specified in the Ministerial Direction. You will receive full information on your responsibilities under the Act on appointment. |
| **Mandated Person Children First Act 2015** | As a mandated person under the Children First Act 2015 you will have a legal obligation:   * To report child protection concerns at or above a defined threshold to TUSLA. * To assist Tusla, if requested, in assessing a concern which has been the subject of a mandated report.   You will remain a mandated person for the duration of your appointment to your current post or for the duration of your appointment to such other post as is included in the categories specified in the Ministerial Direction. You will receive full information on your responsibilities under the Act on appointment. |
| **Infection Control** | Have a working knowledge of Health Information and Quality Authority (HIQA) Standards as they apply to the role for example, Standards for Healthcare, National Standards for the Prevention and Control of Healthcare Associated Infections, Hygiene Standards etc. and comply with associated HSE protocols for implementing and maintaining these standards as appropriate to the role. |
| **Health & Safety** | It is the responsibility of line managers to ensure that the management of safety, health and welfare is successfully integrated into all activities undertaken within their area of responsibility, so far as is reasonably practicable. Line managers are named and roles and responsibilities detailed in the relevant Site Specific Safety Statement (SSSS).  Key responsibilities include:   * Developing a SSSS for the department/service[[1]](#footnote-1), as applicable, based on the identification of hazards and the assessment of risks, and reviewing/updating same on a regular basis (at least annually) and in the event of any significant change in the work activity or place of work. * Ensuring that Occupational Safety and Health (OSH) is integrated into day-to-day business, providing Systems Of Work (SOW) that are planned, organised, performed, maintained, and revised as appropriate, and ensuring that all safety related records are maintained and available for inspection. * Consulting and communicating with staff and safety representatives on OSH matters. * Ensuring a training needs assessment (TNA) is undertaken for employees, facilitating their attendance at statutory OSH training, and ensuring records are maintained for each employee. * Ensuring that all incidents occurring within the relevant department/service are appropriately managed and investigated in accordance with HSE procedures[[2]](#footnote-2). * Seeking advice from health and safety professionals through the National Health and Safety Function Helpdesk as appropriate. * Reviewing the health and safety performance of the ward/department/service and staff through, respectively, local audit and performance achievement meetings for example.   **Note**: Detailed roles and responsibilities of Line Managers are outlined in local SSSS. |

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| **Staff Nurse (Mental Health)**  **Contextual and/or Role Specific Information** |
| *Here you will find role specific information related to working in different contexts/ departments/ areas.*  *This information has been sourced from previously advertised Job Specifications where additional information was provided to candidates to describe the specifics of a particular role in relation to duties & responsibilities and/or professional knowledge requirements.*  *This information is intended as a guide to possibilities and is not in any way prescriptive / exhaustive. You may wish to consider using the examples below* ***if*** *they are relevant to the role for which you are recruiting.* |

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| **Context / Area** | **Role Specific Knowledge & Experience** |
| **Adult / Older Adult / Psychiatry of Later Life Services / Intellectual Disability (with Mental Health diagnosis)** | Demonstrate professional knowledge and experience across a wide range of disorders and dysfunctions and the management and care of these across a number of settings including but not limited to:   * Inpatients. * Continuing Care. * Rehabilitation. * Managing Challenging Behaviours. * Security & Risk. * Deliberate Self Harm.   Professional Knowledge refers to appropriate care for this particular client group. |
| **Child & Adolescent Mental Health Services (0-16 (18))** | Demonstrate professional knowledge and experience across a wide range of disorders & dysfunctions and the management and care of these across a number of settings including but not limited to:   * Inpatients. * Continuing Care. * Rehabilitation. * Managing challenging behaviours. * Security & Risk. * Deliberate Self Harm.   Professional Knowledge refers to appropriate care for this particular client group. |
| **Forensic Mental Health** | Demonstrate professional knowledge and experience across a wide range of disorders and dysfunctions and the management and care of these with a particular emphasis on, but not limited to:   * Therapeutic Security. * Risk Assessments. * Therapeutic Programmes. * Managing Challenging Behaviours. * Deliberate Self Harm.   Professional Knowledge refers to appropriate care for this particular client group. |

**\*\*\*\*\*\*\*Helpful Reminders\*\*\*\*\*\*\***

**1) Please remember to delete any prompts and / or tables (in dark blue) in the sections above**

**2) Ensure all fonts are now in black**

1. A template SSSS and guidelines are available on the National Health and Safety Function, here: <https://www.hse.ie/eng/staff/safetywellbeing/about%20us/>

   2 See link on health and safety web-pages to latest Incident Management Policy [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. [↑](#footnote-ref-2)