

Proud to Care

DONCASTER



Occupational Therapist

Approaching each person's physical and mental wellbeing



What is a Occupational Therapist?

Occupational Therapists take a 'whole person' approach to each person's physical and mental wellbeing by considering all their needs – physical, social, psychological and environmental. They assess, plan, implement and evaluate treatment plans in both hospital and community settings. They establish realistic goals with the person with meaningful outcomes.

Occupational Therapists work with a number of people at any one time. This is often referred to as a caseload working with individuals and families directly to help them to live their fullest lives by providing equipment or adaptations to their home environment, making referrals

to other services and agencies, and keeping detailed records.

As an Occupational Therapist, there are different teams in which you can work; here are just a few of the options available:

Children Social Care Team

The Children's Occupational Therapy Team offers a child and family centred approach to support children and young people with their independence in all aspects of daily living, such as mobilising, seating, self-feeding, dressing and participating in play and activities. The service is available to children and families across Doncaster.

The Team work in partnership with parents/carers and other colleagues to promote positive outcomes for children by using a range of approaches that are individually tailored to each child and family. This may include the provision of specialist equipment, home adaptation or training to parents, carers and respite staff. This is achieved through individual assessments, treatment, advice and multi-agency working.





Adult Social Care Team

Working with adults over the age of 18 years old with physical disabilities, long term conditions and with older people Occupational Therapists keep people as independent as possible (with support where needed) to live a full life in their own home.

This team provide specialist equipment and adaptations to a person's home environment so that they can live a safe and independent life.

First Response Team

The First Response Team work with the Adult Social Care Team Duty workers to provide a fast response to urgent referrals where a person is considered to be in immediate danger. The role of the team is to respond to the case within 72 hours and the Occupational Therapist will eliminate the risk with stock equipment.





How do I become an Occupational Therapist?

'Occupational Therapist' is a protected title, so the routes to qualifying as a Health and Social Care professional are regulated by Royal College of Occupational Therapists. It is important to ensure you enrol on an 'approved' course.

There are many different routes into the world of Occupational Therapy – here are three of the different routes:

School Leavers

Initially you will need to have gained 5 GCSE's, and MUST have English, Maths & a Science at grade 3 or above. From here, you have 2 options available, you can complete A Levels or go to a college of your choice to complete a 12 months access to Health and Social Care qualification. You will need to have a minimum of 240 UCAS points to move on to University to complete an Occupational Therapy Degree. To gain a placement at University, you will also need to have some Health and Social Care work Experience; this can be achieved via Paid work, Voluntary work, and placement or lived experiences. ►





Already hold a degree? (In any subject)

As you already have a Degree, you are able to go straight to University to complete a Master Degree in Occupational Therapy. You would still be required to have Health and Social Care Experience of some description and evidence this to the University of your Choice.

Experienced Care Worker

If you have worked in the Adult Social Sector and have gained qualifications such as Diploma's at levels 3 or above, you are able to apply through the UCAS route, but would need to speak with the University of your Choice, to discuss the entry levels for your current Qualifications and experience.



We want every person in Doncaster to live in the place they call home with the people and things that they love, in communities where they look out for one another, doing things that matter to them.

Sometimes we need some support to live the life we choose and to do the things that are important to us. This support may come from a mix of family members, friends and neighbours, local community groups and voluntary organisations, and people employed in caring roles, like Support Workers, Social Workers, Occupational Therapists or Personal Assistants.

There are lots of different jobs in social care in Doncaster and we're sure there will be a job here for you!



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Contact us on:

Email proudtocare@doncaster.gov.uk

Telephone **01302 737908**

to speak to one of our team.

Monday to Friday 10am – 4pm.