

Shauna Garrity

Associate Paediatric Occupational Therapist
Advanced Sensory Integration Practitioner

Based in: Newcastle upon Tyne

Area covered: North East



Profile

Shauna joins the A Chance for Life Ltd team as a specialist paediatric OT, offering a range of highly specialised assessments and interventions for the complex sensory needs of children and young people.

With over 8 years' experience working as an OT, Shauna has a profound understanding of how to support the needs of children with special educational needs, particularly those with autism spectrum disorder and sensory processing difficulties.

She has a wealth of experience in providing sensory based equipment, strategies and coaching in home, school and community settings, for clients and their families.

Shauna is a very positive and enthusiastic person and is truly passionate about the therapy and support she is able offer to families and their children.

She is confident working autonomously, but also works well alongside others as part of a multidisciplinary team. Shauna loves to learn from those around her but is also keen to share her specialist knowledge and experience around sensory integration, to benefit others.

Shauna thrives on building therapeutic rapport with others and working to provide a holistic approach to support children and young people with disabilities to live a happy and meaningful life.

Areas of expertise

Children & young people
Sensory integration
Positive behavioural support
Special educational needs
Autism spectrum disorder
Learning disability
Developmental coordination disorder
PICA
Attachment disorder
Foetal alcohol syndrome
Down's syndrome
Epilepsy
Cerebral palsy
Mental health conditions

Qualifications

BSc (Hons) Occupational Therapy, 2015
Postgraduate Certificate, Sensory Integration Practitioner status, 2019
Postgraduate Diploma, Advanced Sensory Integration Practitioner status, 2021

Memberships & registrations

Health and Care Professions Council (HCPC)
Royal College of Occupational Therapists (RCOT)
Sensory Integration Education (SIE) –
Gold Membership & Workplace Clinical Mentor

To discuss a referral or for more information, please contact A Chance for Life Ltd

T: 01768 891709 E: admin@achanceforlife.co.uk

W: www.chanceforlife.co.uk



Professional Experience

July 2023 – present **Associate Paediatric Occupational Therapist and Advanced Sensory Integration Practitioner – A Chance for Life Ltd**

2022 – 2023 **Advanced Sensory Integration Lead/Band 7 Occupational Therapist, Northern Counties School – Percy Hedley Foundation**

Lead Therapist for all sensory assessment, intervention, and sensory related service development projects across the Percy Hedley Foundation. Managing a daily caseload of classes across Northern Counties School, whilst also providing a Sensory Integration (SI) referral service for those who require more intensive sensory support. Shauna is a confident administrator of sensory-based equipment and worked to develop a bespoke SI room within school, with the aim of providing Ayres SI therapy for students with sensory processing difficulties.

2019 – 2022 **Band 6 Occupational Therapist Northern Counties School – Percy Hedley Foundation**

2016 – 2019 **Band 5 Occupational Therapist Northern Counties School – Percy Hedley Foundation**

Providing a range of OT focused assessment and intervention for students with ASD, Attachment Disorder, Foetal Alcohol Syndrome, Cerebral Palsy and Down's Syndrome. Shauna designed and delivered 1:1 and group-based therapy sessions; developing fine motor skills, gross motor skills, self-care/independence, self-esteem, social skills and community access/transition skills. She liaised with a wide variety of health care professionals both internally and externally, gaining invaluable experience of multi-disciplinary team working.

2015 – 2016 **Junior Occupational Therapist (Part-time), OT For Kids**

In her first qualified OT role, Shauna was employed by a private company based in Manchester, to provide OT focus groups across a range of schools within the West End of Newcastle upon Tyne. As a newly qualified OT, this challenged her to work autonomously and develop confidence in her clinical reasoning, without the face-to-face support of a day-to-day MDT. Shauna built excellent professional relationships with her students and was able to provide a lot of coaching and modelling of OT strategies within classrooms. She also delivered a range of training within such schools, focusing on enabling teaching staff to further support and develop handwriting skills for students.

2015 – 2016 **Support Worker, Tees/Tyne House, Percy Hedley Foundation**

In order to gain experience working with children with SEN, Shauna took a part time role as a support worker, working across both the children's and young adult's homes within the Percy Hedley Foundation. This afforded her the opportunity to work closely with children with complex needs and integrate her skills as a newly qualified OT to better support their activities of daily living.

2015 **Personal Assistant, Disability North**

Having just qualified with her degree in OT, Shauna was keen to gain experience working in the care sector whilst awaiting a paediatric OT role to be advertised in the North East. She worked for a short time as a carer for a young woman with Cerebral Palsy, providing daytime care and overnight support, helping the young woman with her activities of daily living such as self-care and community access. This experience allowed Shauna to gain useful insight into how to support people with disabilities to live a meaningful life.

Shauna's recent training record is available on request.