

ROLE TITLE: Magic Trainer

SALARY: Voluntary Position

RESPONSIBLE TO: Clinical Leads

LOCATION: London (various locations, including South Bank)

HOURS: 10 days on camp (approx. 9am–5:30pm, with an extended day on the final day for the magic show, 10am–9pm)

BENEFITS: Training, hands-on work experience, certificate of participation, letter of commendation, and additional half-day CPD training session led by our Joint Clinical Leads.

About Breathe Arts Health Research

How to Apply

Breathe Arts Health Research (Breathe) is a not-for-profit social enterprise, founded in 2012. We are world leaders in combining creativity and robust scientific research to improve health and wellbeing.

Our vision is to transform healthcare, embedding evidence-based arts & health into the mainstream. We are connected and grounded by our values – to be **pioneering, empowering, collaborative, inclusive** and to act with **integrity**.

The Breathe Magic Intensive Therapy Programme is designed for young people (7-19 years) who have hemiplegia – a predominately one-sided body weakness or paralysis following a congenital or acquired brain injury. Participants learn specially selected magic tricks designed to improve the use of their hand and arm function in everyday bimanual activities over a 10-day intensive programme culminating in a professional magic show for family and friends.

Role Description

As a Magic Trainer, you will work closely with Rebecca Johnson and Rebecca Fortescue, our Joint Clinical Lead Occupational Therapists, to provide tailored therapy for 16 young participants (aged 7-19) with hemiplegia. In this dynamic and rewarding role, you will support the young people in practising their magic tricks and everyday two-handed activities, such as fastening buttons, tying shoelaces, and cutting up food.

This is a fantastic opportunity to gain hands-on experience in paediatric neurology. You will work alongside the clinical leads to support children with varying levels of hemiplegia, gaining exposure to key neurological factors such as tone, weakness, dystonia, passive range limitations, and more. You'll also learn how to scale and adapt activities to meet each child's individual needs, further developing your skills in a paediatric neurological setting.

Not only will this role enhance your CV with practical clinical experience, but it will also give you the rewarding opportunity to witness the young people's progress as they develop new skills and confidence. And as a bonus, you'll even pick up a few magic tricks to amaze your friends and family!

After the programme ends, you'll be invited to a half-day CPD training session on upper-limb bimanual therapy (worth £200), led by our Joint Clinical Leads. You'll receive a letter of commendation and a CPD certificate after completing the training.

Key Responsibilities

- Assist the young people with learning magic tricks, ADLs and goal practice, such as tying shoelaces, buttoning shirts, and using both hands for tasks (e.g. eating, dressing).
- Provide one-on-one support and encouragement, helping participants stay motivated and engaged throughout the programme.
- Supervise and guide bimanual play activities, such as circus skills, origami, and costume design, to enhance fine and gross motor skills.
- Maintain daily SOAP notes to track participant progress and communicate effectively with the clinical team.
- Attend daily staff meetings (morning and end-of-day) to discuss participant progress and share insights with the wider team.
- Undertake other duties as requested by Breathe staff to ensure the smooth running of the programme.

Training and Support

- **Pre-Camp Training:** All Magic Trainers must attend a compulsory training day prior to the programme, where you will learn about the programme, the therapy strategies, and basic magic tricks.
- **Ongoing Guidance:** You will receive ongoing support from our Joint Clinical Leads throughout the programme, including guidance on strategies and assistance with SOAP note writing.
- **Post-Camp CPD:** After the programme ends, you will be invited to a half-day CPD training session on upper-limb bimanual therapy (worth £200), led by our Joint Clinical Leads, and receive a CPD certificate.

Conditions of Engagement

- **Interview:** Attend an informal online group interview led by a Clinical Lead.
- **Training and DBS Check:** Complete the mandatory Magic Trainer training day and undergo an enhanced DBS check (cost covered by Breathe AHR).
- **Time Commitment:** We ideally ask for a full commitment to the 10-day programme. However, we can accept a minimum of 5 days for returning volunteers.

Who Can Apply?

This role is ideal for students or professionals looking to gain experience in paediatric therapy or neurorehabilitation. We encourage applications from:

- Occupational Therapy students
- Physiotherapy students
- Qualified Occupational Therapists and Physiotherapists
- Teachers or Teaching Assistants with an interest in supporting young people with disabilities

We're looking for individuals who are:

- Enthusiastic about working with children and young people with disabilities
- Creative, with the ability to balance patience and enthusiasm
- Strong team players who can think on their feet and adapt to different situations
- Warm, kind, and able to build strong, trusting relationships with children and colleagues
- Detail-oriented with good written and verbal communication skills
- Knowledgeable about health and safety protocols
- Reliable and trustworthy when dealing with confidential information

Why Join Us?

- **Gain unique, hands-on experience** in paediatric therapy and neurological rehabilitation
- **Enhance your CV** with valuable experience supporting young people with hemiplegia and developing bimanual skills
- **Work with an inspiring team** and be part of a programme that truly makes a difference to the lives of young people with hemiplegia and their families
- **Receive professional development** through training and CPD opportunities, and join a network of like-minded individuals

How to Apply

If you're passionate about working with young people, gaining hands-on therapeutic experience, and contributing to a truly impactful programme, we'd love to hear from you!

To apply, please complete the [Breathe Magic Trainer Sign-Up Form](#) on our website.

For any questions or additional information, please visit our **FAQs** or contact us at magic@breatheahr.org.