Child Therapist
Dominique Hawksley and Laura Robson Brown are child psychotherapists employed by the school. A child may be referred to a therapist for assessment and for subsequent therapeutic work, with the
consent of the parents, when he or she is experiencing a problem and might benefit from their
intervention.
Referral to a therapist may only be made by Althea Pipe (Senior Deputy Head) or by Lisa Bedford
(Assistant Head Pastoral at Senior House), with the therapist’s agreement and with the prior approval
of the parents.
The role is at all times to advocate the needs of the child and, as such, although they work closely with
home and school, their position is an independent one.
To ensure that parents are fully engaged in discussion, review and decision-making, the following
‘cycle’ typically operates: x Parents initially agree to meet with the therapist, in school, usually for a 90-minute session, to
provide any relevant background, to raise any questions and to decide whether 156T whe

All information shared with the therapist is confidential. A child may trust that the therapist will keep
their confidence and parents are kindly requested to respect this. A child may, of course, share any/all
details of their therapy as they wish. Should any safeguarding concerns arise the therapist will discuss
these with the Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) so that school can take any necessary action.
Parents will be advised in the first place, if appropriate.
Althea Pipe and Lisa Bedford will act as the point of liaison between therapist and the staff of the
school and will be responsible for internal communication within the school. The therapist will provide
general feedback to school on a regular basis as well as more specific advice when helpful to do so.
Other than in exceptional circumstances, formal reports will not be written, the therapist will focus
her time on the assessment and treatment of a child and on face to face communication with parents,
as set out above.
All sessions will take place within the school, in a room set aside at Whitfield House for that purpose.
Children will, with parental consent, be allowed to be absent from lessons for such sessions, as
necessary.
The above outlined provision is subsidised by the school. The charges to parents, invoiced half-termly
directly from the therapist, are based on an annually adjusted hourly rate (see below).
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