

**Weekend Sennie (SEN NANNY/MANNY) for B8**

<b>Additional needs present:</b> Autism and PDA	<b>Location:</b> Belsize Park, NW3	<b>Wage / Salary:</b> £15 - £23 per hour gross	<b>Driver:</b> Non-essential
<b>Live in/out:</b> Live out	<b>Pets:</b> None	<b>Days &amp; Hours:</b> Saturday or Sunday - ideally full day	<b>Start Date:</b> ASAP

<b>Essential Skills/Traits:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 4+ years of 1:1 SEN childcare experience, specialising in Autism.</li> <li>• Knowledge of PDA and commitment to continued learning.</li> <li>• Calm, patient, empathetic, and proactive communicator.</li> <li>• Skilled in managing distressed behaviours sensitively.</li> <li>• Physically active with a passion for outdoor activities.</li> <li>• Familiar with SALT and OT therapeutic approaches.</li> <li>• Organised and adept at planning engaging activities.</li> <li>• Experience supporting children with delayed or semi-verbal communication.</li> <li>• Flexible and open to occasional travel within the UK or abroad at least once per year</li> </ul>	<b>Desirable Skills/Traits:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Previous experience in supporting children through toilet regression.</li> <li>• Trained in safe restraint techniques or open to receiving training, with the understanding that such methods are used only as a last resort.</li> </ul>
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**About the role/family:** **SENNIES** is supporting a wonderful family in North London in their search for a dedicated Sennie to support their 8-year-old Son. We are seeking an experienced and resilient Sennie interested in a long-term role, supporting all aspects of B8's home life and education.

The family is keen to find a Sennie who will give context in situations, give B8 advance notice of what to expect, support B8 if he becomes stressed/dysregulated, and keep him safe whilst ensuring he feels supported.

**About the Child:** B8 is a cheerful and curious 8-year-old boy who enjoys animals, trains, transportation, music, outdoor adventures, nature appreciation, excursions, cooking and baking, numbers and shapes, building projects, sensory play (sand and water), trampolining, gymnastics, and being read to. His family believes he has a natural talent for mathematics and are eager to nurture this interest.

B8 has a diagnosis of Autism with delayed verbal communication. He currently communicates using short, simple sentences, and his family actively encourages him to verbalise during activities and requests to foster independence. They are mindful that speaking can be tiring for him and place importance on responding to his non-verbal cues and modelling language during interactions. The family uses concise language to support his processing and expects the Sennie to follow this approach.

**Current Challenges:** Recently, B8 has become more dysregulated and has shown a decreased interest in his favourite activities. This shift appears to coincide with recent changes in his school and home care, which have contributed to low mood and behaviours that challenge. To help B8 regain his cheerful and unmasked self, the family is seeking a confident and experienced Sennie who can provide consistent, patient, and thoughtful support.

SENNIES has supported this family for years and can confirm that while initial behaviours may be challenging, B8 is a wonderful, happy child when surrounded by a supportive team that meets his individual needs. PDA (Pathological Demand Avoidance) experience is highly desirable, and the family is committed to supporting the Sennie's ongoing learning in this area, including funding training as needed.

**Approach to Stimming and Regulation:** B8 engages in various stims as a form of expression and self-regulation. The family embraces these behaviours unless they pose a risk, such as mouthing harmful objects

or inadvertently disrupting others (e.g., crawling on the carpet at school). When necessary, the family redirects these behaviours to safer alternatives, such as using silicone chewies or weighted blankets for deep pressure input.

#### Key Considerations for the Role:

- A forward-thinking and empathetic approach is essential. The Sennie should aim to experience the world through B8's perspective and adapt to his needs.
- B8's safety is paramount. For instance, hand-holding is necessary near roads, but walking, skipping, or running alongside him can be adapted to his energy levels.
- B8 may require proprioceptive input, such as lying down on a pavement, to regulate himself. This is not seen as problematic behaviour, and as long as he is safe, it should be supported.
- His hypermobility and reduced body awareness mean he may tire without realising it. The Sennie should be mindful of this and allow extra time for activities or journeys.
- Familiarity with or willingness to learn how to use B8's pictogram agenda app to manage days that differ from the regular routine.
- Sensitivity to B8's hypersensitivity to noise is crucial.
- Effort should be praised over achievement, and the family does not use rewards, preferring to encourage self-motivation.

**Important Note:** The family prefers not to proceed with applicants who plan to incorporate behavioural therapy strategies into their approach.

#### Main Duties and Responsibilities:

- Prepare and provide meals for B8 during shifts.
- Engage B8 in preferred activities.
- Support B8's development throughout the day.
- Assist with reading, writing, and numeracy exercises.
- Provide regular updates to the family.
- Keep shared spaces tidy after use.
- Manage bath time and bedtime routines.
- Escort B8 to activities, appointments, and play dates.
- Support toileting needs.
- Foster B8's independence and communication skills.

**Lead Recruiter:** Anita - [anita@sennies.co.uk](mailto:anita@sennies.co.uk)

To apply for this amazing role and see the full job description and family preferences, please head to the SENNIES website and fill in our [online application form](#).

**If you are already registered**, please [log in to your online SENNIES account](#), where you will see if you are a good match for the family/client based on your matching preferences. Please click 'like' for any roles you want to be sent forward for, so we can qualify your application.

**REF: 0286WK**

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