

Sennie (SEN SPECIALIST/NANNY/MANNY) for B8

Additional needs present: ADHD, ASD with a PDA Profile, Developmental Trauma/Attachment	Location: Leighton Buzzard	Wage / Salary: Approx £30,000 per annum gross	Driver: Essential with own car
Live in/out: Live out	Pets: Cat(s)	Days & Hours: School Term only 35 hours a week. Monday - Friday - Either 9am-3pm, 9.30am-3.30pm or 10am-4pm	Start Date: September 2024

Essential Skills/Traits:

- 2+ years SEN Childcare experience.
- Patient, kind, resilient, empathetic, adaptable, attentive, engaging, playful with a sense of humour and genuinely caring.
- An ability to cope with rapid changes in mood and react accordingly.
- Helping to provide regulation through low demand approaches.
- Experience with, or willingness to learn about PDA (Pathological Demand Avoidance).

About the role/family: **SENNIES** is excited to support a close-knit family of four, looking for a compassionate and experienced Sennie to support their 8-year-old son, who has ADHD, ASD with a PDA profile, and associated anxiety. As B8 is currently unable to attend school, the family needs someone to provide dedicated care during school hours. While Dad works from home and Mum commutes to London four days a week, their older daughter is thriving in school. B8 is intelligent and curious but struggles with traditional learning methods. He has a strong interest in computer games and outdoor activities, and the family are committed to nurturing his growth through alternative forms of engagement. The family are looking for a Sennie who can be a companion, playmate, mentor, and carer for their son. This role involves creating a stimulating and supportive environment tailored to his unique needs. The Sennie will be expected to actively participate in activities he enjoys—whether it's playing with toys at home, engaging in computer games, or exploring the outdoors with trips to local parks, skateparks, and trampolining centres. Given the nature of these activities, having your own car is essential, and mileage expenses will be covered.

B8 is perceptive and values authenticity, so building trust and engagement is crucial. He needs someone who is genuinely interested in him, present in the moment, and full of energy. The Sennie will need to be creative in finding learning opportunities within his interests, guiding him gently without being pushy. Flexibility is key, as some days will be full of energy and adventure, while others may require a more nurturing approach. There are times when B8 reverts to a "baby" or "dog" role for comfort, and the Sennie will need to be able to meet him where he is emotionally. Stability and consistency are essential for B8, who has yet to experience this with anyone outside immediate family. The family are hopeful that a Sennie can help create a reliable, long-term relationship that supports his growth. They are looking for someone who is open, friendly, and genuine, with the ability to strike a balance between being in control and allowing B8 to feel like he's in charge. The ideal candidate will be humble, low-ego, and naturally skilled at connecting with children, especially those with special educational needs. Comfort with adventure and the great outdoors is a must, along with a willingness to engage in B8's indoor interests, such as iPad games and TV, as part of building a trusting relationship. By joining the family as a Sennie, you'll play a pivotal role in creating an environment where B8 can learn, grow, and thrive on

his own terms. The family believe that with the right support, he can flourish, and are excited to find someone who shares their commitment to his unique journey.

About the child/children: B8 is a high-intensity, highly inquisitive, and fun-loving 8-year-old with a passion for cars, scooters, and outdoor adventures. He also enjoys quiet moments with his iPad and TV, along with board games like chess, Top Trumps, and Uno, and playing with some of his favourite toys. Due to his PDA (Pathological Demand Avoidance), he needs to feel in charge of his own life and typically has a clear idea of what he wants to do, which can sometimes come across as demanding. He's funny, engaging, and loves to talk and interact with others. At heart, he's an adventurer, always eager to explore new places and discover what lies around the next corner. The family's current approach to supporting him is rooted in low-demand parenting. The family place no limits on screen time, as they have found that he balances his love for tech with a natural inclination to get outside and be active. While traditional learning methods haven't worked for him, the family are always on the lookout for organic learning opportunities. He is incredibly curious about the world around him, but he engages on his own terms. The Sennie will play a crucial role in supporting B8 by embracing his need for control while gently guiding him through his daily activities. By building a trusting relationship, the Sennie will help B8 navigate his day, balancing his interests in adventure and calm time. The Sennie should be flexible, understanding when to encourage outdoor exploration or when to join him in a quiet game or screen time. They will need to remain calm and regulated, especially during moments when he is big, brash, and bold, providing a steady presence that helps him feel safe and understood. By respecting his need for control and offering supportive companionship, the Sennie will help B8 feel more secure, enabling him to open up, engage, and thrive in his own unique way.

Sensory and safety checklist: *The family have identified that :*

- Remembers routes and places extremely well; Bangs objects and doors; Only seems to hear the first words of a sentence; Dislikes the feel of certain fabrics and substances; Dislikes certain foods and drinks; Seeks pressure by crawling under heavy objects; Dislikes certain everyday smells; Has extremely good balance.

Who this role would suit:

- **Genuine and Authentic:** Someone who is open, friendly, and genuine, as B8 can quickly sense insincerity. They should have a true passion for being with him, showing genuine interest in his activities and interests.
- **Energetic and Present:** The ideal candidate must have plenty of energy and be fully present when with B8. They should be actively engaged in his day, driving activities and interactions with creativity and enthusiasm.
- **Creative and Observant:** Someone who is creative in generating ideas for daily activities and skilled at spotting learning opportunities. However, they must also be patient and not push too hard if he isn't ready to engage.
- **Inquisitive and Engaged:** B8 has a very inquisitive mind. Once he's interested in something, he becomes fully immersed, and the Sennie will need to match this level of engagement.
- **Humble and Low Ego:** The Sennie needs to be humble and low-ego, providing a safe and predictable environment. While they should be in control, they must also allow B8 to feel like he's running the show when he needs to.
- **Active and Adventurous:** B8 loves being outdoors—whether at the park, in the woods, car spotting, bug hunting, or visiting skate parks. The candidate must be comfortable with adventure, enjoy the great outdoors, and have a car for transportation.
- **Engaged During Downtime:** B8 also needs downtime playing iPad games and watching TV to help regulate himself. The successful candidate should actively participate in these activities, playing games with him or watching alongside him, as this is often how he builds relationships and feels safe.
- **Nurturing and Flexible:** The person may need to be nurturing, as B8 sometimes reverts to a “baby” or “dog” role when he needs to feel little. They should be willing and able to engage with this side of his personality to help him feel secure and understood.

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Lead Recruiter: Anita - 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.

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