

Title	School Psychologist
Location	TAFE Campus (Block F), 29 Windemere Road, Alexandra Hills, Queensland
Employment Type	Part Time, 2 days a week
Starting Date	18 January 2018, or by negotiation
Remuneration	Negotiable, dependent on experience and qualifications
Reports To	Principal
Applications Close	2pm, Thursday 22 November 2018

OUR ORGANISATION

The Sycamore School is an independent school for young people on the Autism Spectrum. Catering for students from Prep to Year 8 it focuses on improving life quality outcomes through specialist education.

The school provides safe and inclusive, autism-friendly learning using a strengths-based approach, innovative ways of teaching, evidence-informed strategies and the Australian Curriculum. The school provides a positive learning environment which is enhanced by quality teaching to assist each young person on their educational journey.

The Sycamore School is a place of celebration providing each young person with a spectrum of choice and opportunities to build independence to advocate for themselves and reach their potential.

OUR VISION

To improve life outcomes for people on the autism spectrum.

OUR MISSION

The Sycamore School provides specialist support and education to people on the autism spectrum, their care networks, and the community.

OUR VALUES

We are:

- Respectful – We value all perspectives
- Kind – We are selfless and giving
- Accepting – We value uniqueness
- Brave – We face our challenges with conviction
- Creative – We think outside the box
- Patient – We accept that some things are difficult before they become easy.



YOUR OPPORTUNITY

The Sycamore School is seeking a focused and enthusiastic School Psychologist. The School Psychologist is responsible for providing psychological services to students, staff and parents where appropriate.

THE ROLE

The School Psychologist is accountable for providing professional counselling and psychological services to students. He/she is responsible for developing a full understanding of, and playing a significant role in, the welfare and support of students from Prep to Year 8, with a focus on High School.

The School Psychologist plays a significant role in the further development of student care and wellbeing within the school and engages in proactive support programs and activities.

Position Objectives

- Act as advocate for students' wellbeing and as valuable resource for their educational and personal advancement
- Apply expertise in mental health, learning and behaviour to help students succeed academically, socially, behaviourally and emotionally
- Provision of psychological input to the strategic direction of the school and generation of ideas for improvement, change and innovation
- Partner with families, teachers, school administrators and other professionals to create safe, healthy and supportive learning environments that strengthen connections between home, school and the community
- Provide parent education programs as required.

Key Responsibilities

The School Psychologist will:

- Provide structures for an effective student care program
- Provide early intervention support to students e.g. observation and screening assessments
- Play a role in the development and delivery of evidence-based interventions and wellbeing programs
- Complete assessment reports and assessment feedback in timely manner
- Provide support and referrals for students to external professionals
- Liaise with external consultants
- Provide consultation to teaching and educational support staff regarding student needs e.g. behavioural management and student support plans
- Provide psychological input into the strategic development of the school
- Respond to and assist response to critical incidents and emergencies.

Learning

- Provide professional learning to staff and parents.

Operational and Financial Management

- Ensuring Psychology operations are conducted within budgetary limits and service agreements as appropriate
- Ensuring funding opportunities are investigated and implemented
- Maintaining professional competence and continued professional learning as required by Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency regulations
- Engaging in professional development opportunities and connecting to the Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency for continued professional development requirements
- Compliance with all Workplace Health and Safety procedures and requirements
- Understanding of the principles of risk management including application to property, liability and occupational health and safety.



Policy and Planning

- Documenting and providing reports to the Principal regarding situations reported to Department of Child Safety/Police under the Child Protection Policy guidelines
- Remaining up to date with psychological and educational law policies and guidelines
- Collecting, collating and maintaining appropriate record keeping and case notes to meet legislative and school requirements, in line with the school's Privacy Policy and that meets the Australian Psychological Society.

Communication

- Effective relationships with all stakeholders – staff members, students, parents and members of the Sycamore community.

Qualifications and Expertise

- Fully registered psychologist, preferably with postgraduate qualifications in educational, clinical or counselling psychology
- Full membership with Psychology Board of Australia under the Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency
- Minimum five years' experience working in education or a similar environment with a track record of excellence in quality output, service and an ability to handle pressure situations is required
- Demonstrate a good knowledge of legislation, compliance, policies and procedures as relevant to this position
- Possess an understanding of ethical requirements with mandatory reporting regulations
- Have experience working in a school setting
- Working knowledge and interest in positive psychology and coaching interventions
- Demonstrate highly developed counselling skills with capacity to interact with students, staff and parents
- Be able to create and present professional learning to a range of audiences
- Be able to assist in developing and consulting on a range of preventative programs for students
- Demonstrated experience in dealing appropriately with highly confidential and sensitive information
- Working with Children Registration (Blue Card).

Skills

- Highly developed counselling skills with the capacity to interact with students, staff and parents
- Knowledge and understanding of mental health and developmental issues and their relationship to child and adolescent development
- Comprehensive understanding of self-harm and risk assessments and appropriate responses
- Demonstrated ability to work independently with little supervision and within a multidisciplinary team
- Establish own work schedule to achieve designated goals
- Process and respond to information
- High level of management skills
- High level of negotiation skills
- Excellent time management and organisation skills with the ability to meet deadlines and manage competing tasks
- Demonstrated professional development
- Ability to process information to provide accurate reports and notes in current records and new records.

Interpersonal Skills

- High level energy and enthusiasm
- Initiative and innovative thinking style



- High levels of integrity, confidentiality and loyalty and abide by the Australian Psychological Society's Code of Ethics for Psychologists
- Ability to build rapport, provide guidance and assistance to develop internal and external relationships
- Commitment to work within a team
- Decisiveness and soundness of judgment
- Proven and consistent problem-solving ability.

SELECTION CRITERIA

Please address each of these selection criteria in a paragraph of no longer than 400 words per criteria.

Organisational Skills e.g. Time management, planning and record keeping

Communication e.g. Written skills, interpersonal and relationship skills

Professional Experience e.g. Experience of young people with Autism Spectrum Disorder, innovative and evidence-based practice

Student Wellbeing e.g. Current trends and behavioural support strategies

Team Member e.g. Previous team experience

Personal Characteristics and Experiences e.g. What would you bring to The Sycamore School?

APPLICATIONS

Applications to be addressed to the Principal and emailed to info@thesycamoreschool.qld.edu.au

Applications should include:

- 1-Page application letter
- 2-Page Curriculum Vitae (CV) including two referees, with contact details. *Please include a referee from current **and** previous place of employment.*
- Up to 4-Page response to the selection criteria.

Applications close at 2pm, Thursday 22 November 2018.

