

POSITION DESCRIPTION

Business unit:	Allied Health Services – School Support Services
Position title:	Psychologist
Employment type:	Permanent
Location:	Townsville
Reporting to:	Head of Allied Health Services
Date position reviewed:	February 2022

About SALDA

Speech and Language Development Australia (SALDA) is the nation's peak body supporting and advocating for the needs of children and young people with speech, language and related disorders. For over 40 years our not-for-profit organisation has developed a unique, multidisciplinary approach to helping children and young people with Language Disorder to find their voice.

When people have a voice their thoughts, feelings and aspirations are recognised by others. They possess the capacity to make an impact, both on their own personal situation as well as the broader community, through their actions and words.

SALDA provides a range of services including The Glenleighden School, School Support Services, Allied Health Services, Professional Learning, and Research and Advocacy.

SALDA' Vision, Mission and Values

Our vision is to be the leader in ensuring extraordinary outcomes, beyond what anyone imagined possible, for children and young people with Language Disorder.

Our mission is to educate, support and advocate for children and young people with Language Disorder, enabling them to find their voice.

Our values are:

Service – We put the interests of others above our own and actively seek out opportunities to help.

Passion – We love what we do and show this through our enthusiasm, energy and positive mindset.

Excellence – We have high expectations of ourselves and each other, and continually strive to be better tomorrow than we were today.

Accountability – We accept responsibility, do what is expected of us and are answerable to each other.

Kindness – We are friendly, generous and considerate in everything we do.

Empowerment – We deliberately enable others, develop their agency and voice, and are committed to their success.

Respect – We show through our everyday actions that we value others as unique individuals, entitled to our high regard and dignity, honouring their difference and contribution.

Position summary

The SALDA AHS Psychologist will provide an outstanding assessment and therapeutic service to children, young people and their families within our Townsville Allied Health Clinic.

Key responsibilities:

- Enhancing psychosocial outcomes for children impacted by trauma.
- Experience in the administration, interpretation and report writing for psycho-educational assessment
- Working with other professionals and agencies to enhance client outcomes.
- Maintain a client case load as negotiated with the Program Manager Therapy and Education.
- Identify and work toward client goals, and achieve successful case outcomes for clients.
- Attend stakeholder meetings for the benefit of clients and develop case plans.
- Regularly attend and participate in supervision, case reviews and other case discussions as required.

Main duties and responsibilities

The main duties and responsibilities of the position include, but are not limited to:

- Enhance the psychosocial outcomes for children and young people.
- Administration, interpretation and report writing for psycho-educational assessments.
- Complete Educational Adjustment Program verification documentation as required.
- Working with SALDA's multidisciplinary team and other stakeholders to enhance client outcomes.
- Maintain a client case load as negotiated with the Head of Allied Health Services.
- Identify and work toward client goals, and achieve successful outcomes for clients, including NDIS participants.
- Attend stakeholder meetings for the benefit of clients and develop case plans.
- Regularly attend and participate in supervision, case reviews and other case discussions as required.
- Provide training/professional development to other SALDA team members and external participants.
- Maintain collaborative relationships with the SSS team and other staff of SALDA.
- Contribute to or assume responsibility for data collection procedures, as well as relevant correspondence and administrative tasks.
- Assist to mentor peers and provide guidance where appropriate.
- Lead professional discussion with members of SALDA's Allied Health Team and external colleagues.

- Participate in professional development, as well as initiate and engage in collaborative and/or cross-disciplinary in-servicing.
- Advocate for children with Language Disorder, in accordance with SALDA's vision and mission.
- Participate in and contribute to research as required.

Qualifications, knowledge, skills and experience

Qualifications / Registrations / Professional memberships

Essential:

- Tertiary qualifications in a relevant discipline (psychology).
- Registration as a Psychologist with AHPRA.
- At least two years' experience working with children, young people and their families or at least two years' experience working in similar roles.
- Experience providing individual and group therapy to children, young people and their families.
- An understanding of current child protection legislation and policy reforms.
- An ability to work collaboratively as part of a team.
- Eligibility for a positive Working with Children Check in the applicable state of employment in Australia or exemption based on professional qualifications and registration.
- PRODA registration or eligibility for registration

Desirable:

- Post Graduate qualifications in relevant discipline from an approved tertiary institution.
- Experience supporting students with social / emotional / behavioural needs.

Knowledge, skills and experience

- Knowledge of best practice and procedures related to the provision of educational services to students with Language Disorder.
- Experience in developing and implementing best practice methodologies with a sound evidence base.
- Knowledge and understanding of the comorbidities associated with Language Disorder.
- Experience in administration and reporting of formal cognitive assessments for diagnostic purposes.
- Experience in multidisciplinary and transdisciplinary approaches to working with children and young people with a disability.
- Well-developed oral and written communication skills.
- Ability to self-direct as well as work effectively with others.
- A commitment to personal and professional development.
- Experience developing professional networks internally and externally with key stakeholders.
- Experience providing peer support.

- Experience with student supervision.

Desirable:

- Knowledge of best practice and procedures in relation to working with students with disability for whom language is their primary disorder
- Knowledge of practices, acts, regulations and systems relating to education, special education and the EAP verification process.
- Understanding of the complexities of differential diagnosis of developmental disabilities incorporating communication disorders.

Mandatory Requirements

- A current Blue Card.
- NDIS Worker Screening Check.
- Driver's Licence.
- First Aid Certificate.

Working Relationships

- The Psychologist will work closely with the School Support Services team.
- The Psychologist will build positive working relationships with management, administrative, therapy and education staff throughout the organisation as well as with schools, medical, and other health professionals across Queensland.