



Student Wellbeing Position

School Counsellor/Psychologist Junior and/or Senior School

Permanent position - Full time or Part time (minimum 0.6)

Danebank is a thriving and welcoming Christian school in Hurstville. We inspire and encourage girls from Pre-K to Year 12 to grow into magnificent women. Established in 1933, today Danebank's ethos remains true to Miss Roseby Ball's vision when she accepted her first students. Danebank can be described as a school with heart, where students uphold each other. Staff inspire them to achieve their best academically (develop keen minds) and to be fine, contributing young women (maintain their faithful hearts) ready to take their place in the world.

Mission Statement

Danebank is a Christian School which aims to provide quality, affordable education that will equip girls for all aspects of life.

School Motto: *Ut Prosim* - That I May Serve

Service is an important characteristic at Danebank as we seek to follow the ultimate example of service seen in Jesus. All staff and students are able to contribute positively to the life of our school by supporting the motto *Ut Prosim*.

Position Purpose:

The School Counsellor / Psychologist functions as an integral member of the student wellbeing team, working in partnership with teachers and families to support the emotional and developmental well-being of students at Danebank. The School Counsellor / Psychologist is required to conduct assessments and provide evidence-based treatments for students exhibiting a range of behavioural and emotional problems

School Counsellor/Psychologist

Junior and/or Senior School

Key Roles/Duties/Responsibilities:

Counselling

1. Actively supports the Christian ethos of the School, modelling a Christian example in all activities
2. Conducting comprehensive clinical assessments, formulations and risk assessments for students and develops treatment plans for individual students including external referrals.
3. Provides counselling, appropriate and evidence-based therapies for students and their families which aims to enhance their academic, social, behavioural, and emotional development
4. Designs and implements proactive programs for individual or groups of students and/or parents that relate to academic and personal development including but not limited to; cognitive-behavioural therapy; social skills - making and keeping friends; behavioural modification; and becoming more resilient
5. Responds to critical incidences across the School, providing appropriate psychological services
6. Acts as case manager where external specialists and agencies are involved
7. Works as a member of the Counselling Team and liaise with other teams including the Learning Enrichment, and Student Wellbeing Team in the development and maintenance of student wellbeing in the School
8. Participates and consults in school meetings with staff and parents where mental health concerns are a primary or significant issue for the student
9. Promotes mental health awareness as well as developing and implementing mental health programs.
10. Conducts and analyses psychometric assessments and writing psychometric reports for children and adolescents with developmental, behavioural, learning, and emotional difficulties (such as in Lifeskills or students with extenuating circumstances).
11. Carries out administrative duties such as preparing and maintaining student files and scheduling appointments.
12. Addresses staff meetings on aspects of support services available to students

Wellbeing

1. Participates in the Student Wellbeing program and organised activities
2. Collaboratively develops student support plans including but not limited to; return to school plans, student support plans and communicate these plans to parents and relevant staff
3. Seeks advice, work cooperatively with and refer students to specialist staff where required
4. Proactively communicates with students, colleagues and parents/carers in a respectful, clear, caring and professional way
5. Establishes rapport with students and provide ongoing encouragement
6. Maintains professional confidentiality on information about students
7. Provides professional support to colleagues in all areas of School life
8. Promotes mental health awareness as well as developing and implementing mental health programs
9. Ensures students' wellbeing, welfare and safety within the school by implementing school, curriculum and legislative requirements
10. Monitors and minimises risk through implementation of the School's Risk management procedures
11. Complies with relevant legislative requirements, codes of ethics and conduct established by regulatory authorities (e.g. APS, AHPRA), systems and the School

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Communication and Engagement

1. Attends student wellbeing meetings with the Deputy Principal, Student Wellbeing and/or Head of Junior School, the Student Wellbeing team meetings and Learning Enrichment team meetings.
2. Represents the Counselling Team and making presentations at various parent and/or student information events.
3. Ensures availability to meet with parents, teachers, and allied health partners before and/or after school hours.
4. Demonstrates sensitivity when making referrals externally for further screening or intervention.
5. Communicates confidentially with the Principal or Deputy Principal, Student Wellbeing and/or Head of Junior School, any issues concerning student safety and information regarding relevant external referrals
6. Engages in clinical supervision and peer supervision to meet CPD requirements
7. Contributes to and implement School policies and practices in a developmentally appropriate manner across the School.

Wider Involvement

1. Actively seeks to be involved in the wider life of the School by attending camps, open-day, performance evenings etc.
2. Remains abreast of events and focus of each week and other important information occurring throughout the School.

Other requirements

1. Sets and implements individual work and professional development goals
2. Participates in the regular performance appraisal process of the School
3. Undertakes professional development and participating in clinical supervision.
4. Maintaining ethical and professional standards as required by psychology professional bodies (i.e., AHPRA).
5. Involved in regular supervision and professional development requirements stipulated by the Australian Psychological Society.
6. Willingness to work with junior school students, their families, and staff members if required.
7. Any other duties as may be required by the Principal and/or Deputy Principal(s)

Reporting Relationships:

- Reports to the Deputy Principal, Student Wellbeing and/or the Head of Junior School
- Work collaboratively with the School's Counselling team, K-12
- Work collaboratively with Year Coordinators/Stage Coordinators, Learning Enrichment staff and Class Teachers.
- Ultimately responsible to the Principal

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Experience/Skills Required:

- A personal Christian faith and commitment to servant-leadership principles
- Using Christian principles/values to guide counselling practice
- Experience in dealing with children and adolescents presenting with a range of behavioural, emotional, social, or intellectual difficulties
- Experience working with families
- Ability to engage with children and adolescents from different cultures and across different ages
- Ability to work effectively in a collaborative environment
- High level communication skills, both written and verbal, needed for communicating with children and young people, their families, school personnel, external health professionals
- Ability to give attention to detail as in record keeping and careful follow-up
- Excellent computer literacy skills (e.g., competence with Microsoft Office suite)
- Knowledge of various evidence-based approaches (both individual and group) for treating psychological problems
- Effective time management skills
- High level organisational skills
- Experience working with or having a good understanding of the need of girls
- Experience working in the educational setting
- To be a professional with high ethics when working with staff, students and their families
- Recognises the value and uniqueness of each individual within the School community
- Commitment to one's own ongoing learning
- Professional and personal integrity
- Being flexible and open to change
- Being proactive and innovative
- Organised and punctual with good time management skills

Licenses/Certificates/Qualifications Required:

- Full registration with the Psychology Board of Australia or appropriate professional body with a relevant area of endorsement (e.g., Clinical Psychology, Educational and Developmental Psychology) or working towards the same
- Working with Children check required
- Registered with AHPRA
- Desirable - Minimum two-year full time equivalent accredited postgraduate Masters or Doctorate degree in Psychology

NOTE: Management/Facilitator role will be discussed at interview for those interested.

Acknowledgement for Receipt of Position Description

I have received a copy of the Position Description and have read and understood its content.

Employee Signature: _____

Date: _____

Supervisor's Signature: _____

Date: _____