

Position Description: Educational Counsellor TNS Primary



Position title:	Educational Counsellor
Employment status:	Part time (0.2FTE)
Award classification:	Educational Services (Schools) General Staff Award 2020
Reports to:	TNS Head of Primary

Position purpose

To provide consultation, assessment, intervention and support to students at The Nature School, while also working closely with staff and families to ensure student wellbeing within a strong system of support, in accordance with The Nature School's objectives and educational philosophy.

Key responsibilities

- Work with Head of Primary, class teachers and learning support staff to identify students at risk.
- Provide evidence-based interventions and/or counselling for individuals and groups, with an emphasis on academic, social and emotional challenges.
- Maintain appropriate records.
- Engage with families and refer to external support services if required.
- Work with Head of Primary to strengthen student learning and wellbeing outcomes across the school.
- This position reports to the Head of Primary.

The Nature School Objectives:

- (a) To provide high quality education and care guided by pedagogies including nature-based, place-based and inquiry-led.
- (b) To facilitate authentic learning experiences which engage children and their families.
Learning may be:
 - I. Intentionally designed and/or learner-led; or
 - II. Creative, hands on, experiential or play/based.
- (c) To lay the foundations for a socially cohesive and sustainable future.
- (d) To cultivate environments in which children flourish.
- (e) To promote a deeper, more regular connection with nature.
- (f) To minimize the organisation's environmental footprint through sustainable practices.
- (g) To embed Aboriginal culture, languages and perspectives by connecting with the local Aboriginal community.
- (h) To be a safe and inclusive community.
- (i) To build a network which supports The Nature School to achieve its vision.

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Essential criteria

1. Diploma in Counselling or Social Work as a minimum, however preference will be given to qualification as a Psychologist and full registration with the Psychology Board of Australia under the Allied Health Practitioner Regulation Agency
2. Experience in counselling children, preferably in a school setting, including students with additional and or complex needs
3. Demonstrated ability to work independently and collaboratively in a small team
4. Ability to build positive relationships with staff, students and parents
5. Excellent written and verbal communication skills
6. Current Working with Children Check (for paid employment)

Desirable criteria

1. Experience or interest in ecotherapy
2. Experience supporting teachers in the development and review of diverse students' Individual Programs (IPs)
3. Ability to run relevant parent education courses
4. Ability to run relevant professional learning for staff
5. A special skill or interest that will contribute to our School (eg, art, music, gardening, Indigenous knowledge, outdoor education, special environmental interest, etc)

Employee declaration

I confirm acceptance of the position responsibilities outlined above. I commit to delivering the responsibilities of my role and upholding The Nature School's objectives.

Employee name **Signed** **Date**