

Position Description

Senior Social Worker, Attendance Social Work Consultation

Why work with us

Every child and young person deserves a great education.

We have a strategy that aims to unlock every child’s potential now and into the future, one that in partnership with learners, students, parents and the wider South Australian community will build a world-leading public education system. One that is equitable and prioritises learning and wellbeing.

Together we will make our education system the best it can be.

When our children and young people thrive, so do our communities and our state.

Our values

We are part of the South Australian public sector and share the values of:

							
SERVICE	PROFESSIONALISM	TRUST	RESPECT	COLLABORATION & ENGAGEMENT	HONESTY & INTEGRITY	COURAGE & TENACITY	SUSTAINABILITY
We proudly service the community and the South Australian Government.	We strive for excellence.	We have the confidence in the ability of others.	We value every individual.	We create solutions together.	We act truthfully, consistently, and fairly.	We never give up.	We work to get the best results for current and future generations of South Australians.

About this role

The Attendance Directorate provides student-centered, evidence-informed services and advice to support all students to access their right to an education. We provide schools with universal, targeted and intensive support to address and manage complex barriers to school attendance.

Reporting to the Assistant Director, Attendance Services, the Senior Social Worker, Attendance Social Work Consultation (ASWC), demonstrates advanced professional expertise in supporting school communities. The Senior Social Worker. (ASWC) leads the statewide Attendance Social Work Consultation service, offering specialist advice, resources and referral recommendations to schools for the effective management of student-specific attendance concerns. The Senior Social Worker requires a high level of professional judgement, operational leadership, and the ability to mentor and support staff while contributing to service development and innovative practice across the state.

Position title	Senior Social Worker, Attendance Social Work Consultation
Classification	APH3
Division	Support and Inclusion
Directorate	Attendance
Location	Prospect Office, 114 Main North Road, Prospect
Reports to	Assistant Director, Attendance Services
Direct reports	Social Workers, Attendance Social Work Consultation
Role description date	March 2026

What you will do (key outcomes)


1. Provide effective and efficient line management, professional support, development, and supervision to the social workers, Attendance Social Work Consultation team, including overseeing student placements.
2. Implement, monitor and evaluate professional and service delivery standards for social workers with a strong focus on achieving outcomes.
3. Apply comprehensive assessment processes to identify needs and establish priorities for effective service delivery.
4. Support professional development of staff to ensure the delivery of high quality, evidence informed and accountable services. This includes monitoring professional standards, service delivery, service evaluation and reporting on outcomes.
5. Effectively manage and prioritise personal workloads by developing workload management plans and implementing efficient initiatives.
6. Proactively seek opportunities to improve work practices and services by monitoring service access and outcomes, identifying emerging trends and community needs, and contributing to the ongoing evaluation and development of services.
7. Actively seek client feedback on services and respond positively to client complaints and feedback, and as required, contribute to investigations of client complaints, with a focus on informing and implementing service improvements.
8. Contribute to discipline-specific and multi-professional research, service development, and innovative practices by participating in research activities (under direction), conducting data analysis, evaluating services, and developing recommendations to assist management decision-making and advance professional practice.
9. Consult and liaise with non-government and other government organisations in the provision of services and provide support to interagency initiatives.
10. Contribute to the provision of strategic information to the department by analysing and interpreting local data on behalf of the Attendance Directorate, and Assistant Director, Attendance Services.
11. Help to maintain a safe and healthy working environment by proactively reporting incidents, hazards and injuries.

The capabilities you will bring (key competencies)

- **Social Work Expertise:** Demonstrated in-depth knowledge and high-level of experience in contemporary social work practices and models, gained through the attainment of a recognised qualification. Able to apply this professional knowledge and expertise effectively when providing tailored advice and support to schools or preschools.
- **Leadership and Team Guidance:** Proven ability to effectively communicate a positive sense of direction to team members, providing clear guidance on job requirements and supporting the achievement of individual and team goals.
- **Diversity and Inclusion:** Values individual diversity and consistently models inclusive behaviour in all interactions. Adapt approaches to suit individual differences while maintaining high standards of delivery service and outcomes.
- **Resilience and Adaptability:** Demonstrated ability to exercise sound judgement and professionalism under pressure, effectively navigating setbacks criticism and competing demands to achieve priorities.
- **Collaborative Engagement:** Strong ability to collaborate and build productive, respectful relationships with peers, staff and stakeholders, including across government and non-government agencies.
- **Teamwork:** Develops and accomplishes shared goals by taking an active role in the directorate through contributing ideas, knowledge and expertise. Works collaboratively to achieve directorate objectives.
- **Work Health and Safety:** Demonstrated knowledge and commitment to promoting and creating a safe and inclusive work environment, and the legislative requirements of Equal Opportunity and Work Health and Safety legislation.

Who you will work with (key relationships)	Qualifications
Assistant Director, Attendance Services Senior Advisor, Attendance Hub Principal Social Worker, Student Support Services Attendance Directorate Attendance Outreach services Site leaders in pre-schools and schools Relevant state office personnel Government and non-government agencies Professional associations and interstate systems/sectors Families and community groups	Essential: An appropriate degree or equivalent which gives eligibility for full membership of the Australian Association of Social Workers Desirable: Nil

Corporate responsibilities	Special conditions
<p>Keep accurate and complete records</p> <p>Act appropriately in line with the Public Sector Code of Ethics at all times</p> <p>Support diversity and promote an inclusive workplace for everyone</p> <p>Maintain a commitment to Work Health and Safety legislative requirements</p>	<p>You need a current driver’s license and be willing to drive</p> <p>You may be asked to work out of hours</p> <p>You may need to travel within or outside South Australia</p> <p>You need to achieve mutually agreed performance goals</p> <p>You must have a current Working with Children Check</p> <p>You must do Responding to Risks of Harm, Abuse and Neglect – Education and Care training</p> <p>You must be an Australian resident or provide evidence you have a current work permit</p>

<p>Assessed by: Valentina Lopez, P&C Advisor</p>	<p><i>Valentina Lopez O</i></p>	<p>Approved by: Jessica Winch, Director, Attendance</p>	
<p>Date: March, 2026</p>	<p><small>Valentina Lopez O (Mar 31, 2026 11:43:30 GMT+10.5)</small></p>	<p>Date: March, 2026</p>	<p><small>Jessica Winch (Mar 31, 2026 10:25:48 GMT+10.5)</small></p>

