

Position Description

Social Worker - Truancy

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 Student Support Services (SSS) team works with families, schools and preschools to assist them to support the strengths, opportunities and additional needs of learners. This service is time-limited and based on identified and agreed upon goals, recorded in a service plan. The nature and level of support is tailored to each family, student and site's needs and includes young people with developmental, cognitive, social, emotional, behavioural, learning and physical difficulties, and exceptional needs (including giftedness) and their families.

The Social Worker – Truancy at AHP1 level is a member of a multi-disciplinary team and works with children, young people and their families in relation to students with truancy, attendance, engagement and retention issues. The Social Worker at this level works with preschools and school staff, and parents using evidence-based interventions that include proactive, targeted and intensive strategies that can be adapted for learning and home contexts. This position works with the professional support of the AHP2 Social Worker and AHP3 Senior Social Worker.



Position title	Social Worker – Truancy
Classification	AHP1
Division	Support and Inclusion
Directorate	Student Support Services
Location	Student Support Services local office, with flexible working arrangements available
Reports to	Senior Social Worker Truancy
Direct reports	Nil
Role description date	March 2022

What you will do (key outcomes)

1. In consultation with the Social Worker and Senior Social Worker, apply assessment processes to identify factors that contribute to truancy, attendance, engagement and retention issues at an individual and family level and apply professional knowledge and professional judgment in the selection and adaptation of basic evidence-based interventions in school, community and home settings.
2. Deliver professional and direct services independently and in collaboration with the AHP2 and AHP3 Senior, at the individual, family and whole of site level and develop basic interventions that include proactive, targeted and intensive strategies.
3. Undertake collaborative casework and case coordination, including supporting referrals to other services within and outside the agency under the direction of the AHP2 and AHP3 Senior.
4. With guidance, manage and prioritise personal workloads through efficiency initiatives. Maintain accurate system records, files, write quality case notes and support the collection of basic data.
5. Apply effective communication skills with clients and stakeholders in relation to service delivery practices, and knowledge of pathways for directing client and stakeholder feedback and complaints.
6. Liaise and network with non-government and other government organisations to support the provision of services.
7. Help to maintain a safe and healthy working environment by proactively reporting incidents, hazards and injuries.

The capabilities you will bring (key competencies)

- Demonstrates ability to apply professional evidence-based assessment, casework and community development knowledge and skill in the context of school and home settings with parents/young people/children and education staff.
- Demonstrates knowledge of interpersonal skills to engage effectively with other professionals and disciplines within and outside the agency and in teamwork contexts.
- Demonstrates knowledge of research and scholarly literature relating to children and young people who have experienced trauma and/or have complex learning difficulties and co-morbidity factors associated with family functioning.
- Values critical reflective practice and supervision to develop evidence-based practice knowledge and skills, and self-awareness in practice with families, children and young people.
- Values diversity in CALD, Aboriginal, Torres Strait Islander, gender and sexually diverse individuals and communities and models this in all interactions and adapts approach to differences whilst not compromising on quality practice and service delivery.

- Demonstrates 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
Direct working relationship • AHP3 Senior Social Worker (depending on location may be based offsite), AHP2 Social Worker Truancy Internal Working Relationships • Support Services Assistant Directors, Team Manager, Social Workers, Psychologists Speech Pathologists Behaviour Support Coaches, Special Educators, Special Educators (Hearing), Aboriginal Education Directorate staff, educators and site leaders in pre-schools and schools, relevant state office personnel External working relationships • 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
Keep accurate and complete records Act appropriately in line with the Public Sector Code of Ethics at all times Support diversity and promote an inclusive workplace for everyone Maintain a commitment to Work Health and Safety legislative requirements	You may need a current driver's license and be willing to drive You may be asked to work out of hours You may need to travel within or outside South Australia You need to achieve mutually agreed performance goals You must have a current Working with Children Check You must do Responding to Risks of Harm, Abuse and Neglect – Education and Care training You must be an Australian resident or provide evidence you have a current work permit

Assessed by: Marjan Marzoughi, P&C Advisor		Approved by: Sarah Anstey, Director Student Support Services	
Date: May 2023		Date: March, 2022	