# Position Description

# Paediatric Psychologist

**Vision Australia, supporting people who are blind or have low vision to live the life they choose.**

## Purpose of Position

As a Paediatric Psychologist, you will provide developmental assessments and counselling services and support to children, young people and their families when emotional, social, behavioural, learning, vocational, parenting, and family issues relating to living with a vision impairment and/or loss of vision arise. The services you provide will help to achieve equity and access for all of our clients.

## Context

Vision Australia is a national, for purpose organisation that aspires to have a positive measurable impact on the lives of people who are blind or have low vision in the areas of education, employment, independence and social inclusion. The organisation is proactively transforming itself in response to major changes in our funding models and the expectations of the blind and low vision community.

This position sits within the Client Services group of Vision Australia. The group is responsible providing personalised services in Education, Employment, Independence and Social Inclusion (EEISI) through a trans-disciplinary model to three client groups: Children and young people (0-25 years) - Supporting child/youth and family goal achievement; Adult (26-65 years) - Supporting Individual goal achievement; and Older adults (65+ years) - Supporting Individual goal achievement.

## Principal Responsibilities

* Using evidence-based models, provide individual counselling services or targeted group programs to Vision Australia clients - children, young people and their families when emotional, social, behavioural, learning, vocational, parenting, and/or family issues relating to living with a vision impairment and/or loss of vision arise;
* Using appropriate functional and standardised tools to assess developmental learning and behavioural difficulties of children and young people;
* Identify, develop and review information and resources;
* Promote and represent Vision Australia regarding Counselling, developmental and educational issues in relevant forums
* Develop and maintain internal and external networks;
* Provide professional development as appropriate to relevant parties;
* Monitor and maintain accurate, up to date client records in accordance with professional standards, Vision Australia policy and procedures and other relevant legislation including Disability Act;
* Continuous professional development including keeping up to date with new research and maintaining skills & knowledge level;
* Support student supervision and collaboration with learning institutions universities e.g. universities, peak bodies;
* Other duties as required by the Regional Client Services Manager;
* Assist with maintaining a high standard of safety at Vision Australia by following all safety procedures at all times and acting safely, not putting yourself or other people at risk by your actions or omissions. Ensure that all work performed is in accordance with Vision Australia policies & procedures.
* Work collaboratively and proactively with service delivery staff, the Service Excellence team, and Regional Managers to provide best practice family centred, transdisciplinary, holistic services for Vision Australia clients.

## Key Performance Indicators

Key performance indicators will be clearly defined through the performance planning process.

## Essential Job Competencies

* Tertiary qualification in Psychology as recognised by the Psychology Board of Australia, AHPRA and the Australian Psychological Society (APS) respectively;
* Current registration with AHPRA and the Psychology Board of Australia;
* Previous experience in paediatric counselling is essential;
* Experience and a strong passion for working with children, young people and families;
* Well developed knowledge of person centred, family centred and transdisciplinary approaches and skills in the provision of services and innovations that reflect evidence-based, best practice;
* Knowledge and experience working in transdisciplinary teams;
* Knowledge and understanding of child development;
* Skill and knowledge in providing psychological interventions and therapy to children and families;
* Ability to write professional case notes and liasise with GPs, paediatricians, allied health and other health and educational professionals;
* Proven experience with developmental assessments;
* Ability to adopt an integrated approach within your counselling style;
* Experience in providing client support and counselling services in person and/or through other communication mediums;
* Training and intervention strategies for individuals and groups;
* Strong planning skills including sound time management skills;
* Well-developed analytical and problem solving skills;
* Ability to work as part of a team and independently as required;
* Ability in establishing and building positive working relationships at all levels;
* Excellent interpersonal and written communication skills;
* Computer literacy skills in Microsoft applications and the internet;
* Empathy and emotional maturity;
* Ability to adapt to changes in the work environment;
* An understanding of the impact of blindness and low vision and the Expanded Core Curriculum (desirable);
* Experience working with families from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds (desirable);

## Organisational Values

The expectation that we set is that our workforce understands and models our values and behaviours in everything they do 100% of the time. Our managers lead by example and ensure that their team understands and models our values and behaviours in everything they do.

* Person-Centred - We measure our success in terms of outcomes for our clients;
* Accountable - We hold ourselves responsible for what we do and don’t do;
* Collaborative - We work well together and with others to deliver the best possible outcomes;
* Commercially Focussed - We work efficiently and responsibly to sustain and grow our services and influence;
* Agile - We will adapt, learn and innovate to have a positive impact in a changing environment.

## Vision Australia environment

Many Vision Australia employees work with Seeing Eye Dogs and all employees are likely to have contact with working dogs.

Employment is subject to the Organisation receiving a National Police Record Check and if relevant, a Working with Children Check or QLD Blue Card or Vulnerable Persons (ACT) checks.

Services may also be provided to relevant third parties in the community setting. Services are also delivered across sites to provide outreach services in remote areas and to meet client need across regions and some travel may be required. The service is provided in centre, community and home based settings, within the parameters of VA service delivery policies.

Training in the use of the Vision Australia database will be provided.

Ability to travel independently is required.

## Role Scope

**Reports to: Children and Young People, Regional Client Services**

 **Manager, Victoria**

Direct Report Staff: 0

In-Direct Report Staff: 0

## Review of Job Description

This job description will be reviewed in line with the performance planning and appraisal process.

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