

Position Description

Position Title:	Child Life Therapist
Reports to:	Nurse Unit Manager- Child & Adolescent Unit
Department:	Child & Adolescent Unit
Directorate:	Clinical Operations
Cost centre:	A1602
Code & classification:	Child Life Therapist, Grade 1 (PT61-PT65)
Employment conditions:	Allied Health Professionals (Victorian Public Sector) (Single Interest Employers) Enterprise Agreement 2021 – 2026 and its successor and GV Health Policies and Procedures (and as varied from time to time)

GV Health is an equal opportunity employer and continually strives to build a diverse, equitable and inclusive workforce that reflects our community. We encourage applications from people of all backgrounds.

POSITION SUMMARY

The Child life Therapist is responsible for developing and implementing play and activity programs to assist the children and adolescents' developmental needs, including those with complex health needs, their siblings when appropriate and the needs of the family as a whole. This will include taking the lead in creating an environment which is flexible and responsive to the needs of children and young people.

The Child Life Therapist will utilise specialist knowledge and skills in child development in order to support children and adolescents through their medical journey and assist them to utilise and develop coping strategies related to illness and hospitalisation.

RESPONSIBILITIES AND DUTIES

The following duties are inclusive of but not limited to

- Implement appropriate play therapy activities and experiences, which will assist children to regain skills and confidence to reduce stress and anxiety, procedural support, education and distraction techniques
- Assist in the development of educational resources for health professionals, patients and carer providers.
- Ensure play therapy is child focused so that physiological, social and psychological developmental needs are met
- Ensure the play therapy includes consideration of the patient's family, carers and significant others and their participation in the desired outcome
- Participate and contribute to interdisciplinary team meetings and clinical education sessions to facilitate consumer care goals.
- Provide a high-quality service to internal customers and consumers that reflects best practice and adds value to GV Health
- Assist the organisation in achieving clinical effectiveness by providing the appropriate systems, information or services to clinical areas

KEY SELECTION CRITERIA

Formal Qualification(s) and Required Registration(s):

Essential:

- Current membership or evidence of eligibility for Membership of the Association of Child Life Therapists Australia
- A Bachelor degree in either Early Childhood Studies, Teaching (Primary) or equivalent as recognised by the Association of Child Life Therapists Australia
- Minimum of 2 years proven study in child development/play
- Ability to build a rapport with hospitalised young children and adolescents
- Demonstrated high level communication skills both written and verbal and an ability to deal with conflict resolution.
- Ability to work effectively independently and as part of a multidisciplinary team

Desirable:

- Demonstrated competence in facilitating therapeutic sessions for children and adolescents with complex needs inclusive of low cognition and complex health needs
- Sound knowledge of an extensive range of medical procedures where distraction techniques will be required.

KEY PERFORMANCE INDICATORS

Your performance will be measured through your successful:

- Demonstration of GV Health values and behaviours, being a role model for living the values, Compassion, Respect, Excellence, Accountability, Teamwork and Ethical Behaviour;
- Development and maintaining of collaborative relationships with all other teams and professionals;
- Promoting and enabling of efficient teamwork and service provision both within the department and/or organisation and with other service providers;
- Ability to contribute to a safe working environment and ensure compliance with legislative requirements concerning Occupational Health and Safety, anti-discrimination, and equal opportunity.

AT GV HEALTH ALL STAFF ARE REQUIRED TO

- Demonstration of GV Health values and behaviours, being a role model for living the values, Compassion, Respect, Excellence, Accountability, Teamwork and Ethical Behaviour;
- Maintain an understanding of individual responsibility for consumer safety, quality and risk and adhere to the relevant policies, procedures and guidelines;
- Development and maintaining of collaborative relationships with all other teams and professionals;
- This role may from time to time deal with distress, anxious or upset consumers or members of the public. GV Health is committed to the physical and psychosocial safety of our staff. GV Health staff are required to comply with all safety related training, look after the safety and well-being of themselves and each other, and actively foster a safe working environment;

- Maintain a safe working environment for yourself, your colleagues and members of the public;
 - Identify, report and manage risks and ensure actions are taken to prevent and minimise harm to consumers and the GV Health workforce;
 - Contribute to organisational quality and safety initiatives;
 - Observe and comply with child safe principles, standards and expectations of appropriate behaviour toward and in the company of children;
 - Complete the mandatory training requirements as defined by GV Health and actively engage in the Performance Development Review process;
 - Minimise the risk of infection to consumers, residents, employees, visitors, contractors and the general public;
 - Seek internal customer or consumer feedback and respond accordingly to identify areas of needs;
 - Comply with requirement of National Safety and Quality Health Service Standards and other relevant standards, regulations and legislative requirements;
 - Comply with the principles of patient and family centred care;
 - Not smoke or vape on GV Health premises;
 - Comply with immunisation requirements as per the Department of Health Victoria;
 - Comply with all applicable to position pre-employment checks, which may include but is not limited to; police checks, working with children’s check (WWCC), National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS), Aged Care screening requirements.
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ACCEPTANCE:

I acknowledge and accept that this Position Description represents the general outline of duties, responsibilities and accountabilities that are expected of me in my employment in the position, and may not encompass every aspect of the position. I understand that The GV Health reserves the right to modify position descriptions as required, however I will be consulted when this occurs.

I acknowledge and accept that I must complete and maintain all relevant pre-employment screening and checks for successful employment.

I acknowledge and accept that that I have read and fully understand this Position Description. I agree that I have the ability to fulfil the inherent requirements of the position, and accept my role in fulfilling the responsibilities, activities, duties and generic position requirements.

I acknowledge I will be required to undertake the duties as set out in the position description (and any other duties as requested in accordance with my skills and experience) to the best of my ability and, at all times follow lawful direction.

By accepting the contract of employment, I am agreeing to duties and obligations within the Position Description.

Clinical Operations	Child Life Therapist
Reviewed by:	NUM – Child & Adolescent Unit
Issue Date:	February 2025

ABOUT US

Goulburn Valley (GV) Health is a Regional Public Hospital and Health Service for the Hume Region of Victoria, with main campuses located at Shepparton, Tatura, Rushworth and Euroa. The main campus in Shepparton is the major acute referral hospital for the sub region. Additional satellite sites are also located in Shepparton, Seymour, Benalla, Cobram, Echuca and Wodonga. GV Health provides a range of acute, subacute, mental health, aged, primary health and community services.

OUR PURPOSE

To significantly improve the health and wellbeing outcomes and experiences of the people and communities in our care.

OUR VALUES

GV Health's culture centres around our CREATE values and behaviours. Through these values and behaviours we commit to delivering ongoing quality healthcare for our community:



GV Health Vision and Values: [Values and Vision - GV Health](#)

OUR STRATEGIC PLAN

The **Goulburn Valley Health Strategic Plan 2024-2026** provides the direction for GV Health with our five strategic pillars being:

- Health and Wellbeing Outcomes: Improve health and outcomes for the population in our region
- Community and Consumer Experience: Ensure everyone has an outstanding personalised experience
- Our Staff Experience: Our people feel connected, supported, safe and well
- Responsible Workplace: Be sustainable and efficient
- Health Equity: Embrace differences in how we design and deliver healthcare

GV Health Strategic Plan: [Strategic Plan 2024-2026 - GV Health](#)

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Application tips: [Application Tips - GV Health](#)

GV Health: <https://www.gvhealth.org.au/about/>

Child Safety and Wellbeing: [Child Safety and Wellbeing - GV Health](#)

Living in Goulburn Valley: [Goulburn | Regional Living Victoria](#)

GV Community Connector: [Community Connector Program for Businesses](#)