



BLUE MOUNTAINS GRAMMAR SCHOOL

POSITION: SCHOOL PSYCHOLOGIST
Part time, 1.5 days per week
One term only (Term 4)

COMMENCEMENT: 9th October, 2017 (concludes 1st December, 2017)

Introduction

Blue Mountains Grammar School is a co-educational Christian School in the Anglican tradition for students from Pre-Kindergarten to Year 12.

Established in 1918, the School has a tradition of excellence, consistently achieving outstanding results across academic, sporting and performing arts disciplines. We pride ourselves on the unique School Community that exists – the sense of closeness and inclusiveness that parents and students alike come to value and appreciate about the School.

With professional and experienced staff, the School delivers excellent teaching and learning, wellbeing, leadership and co-curricular opportunities to meet the needs of our young men and women. This takes place within a nurturing Christian environment founded on love, care, respect, service and commitment to one another.

There are three campuses: the Senior School (Years 7 to 12) and the Junior School (Pre-Kindergarten to Year 6) are located at Wentworth Falls, and the Preparatory School (Pre-Kindergarten to Year 4) is located at Valley Heights.

Blue Mountains Grammar School is a dynamic and forward-thinking school with a reputation for producing well-rounded, confident and outstanding citizens equipped for a life in the 21st century.

Further information about the School is available on the main web site at the following address - www.bmgs.nsw.edu.au

The Position

Blue Mountains Grammar School is seeking a registered Psychologist experienced in working with children and young adolescents and their families for Term 4 2017. The successful applicant will join our other School Psychologist working collaboratively with the teaching staff, in achieving best learning outcomes for students with particular needs.

Although working with all staff, the reporting relationship will be to the Deputy Head – Head of Senior School, the Head of the Junior School and the Head of the Preparatory School.

The School Psychologist is required to have knowledge and expertise in matters of pastoral care, have an easy rapport with young people and be totally supportive of the aims of independent education. He/she will be an active Christian and be able to promote effectively the Christian ethos of the School.

The days and hours worked will be determined in discussion with the suitable applicant.



The Position

The successful applicant will have:

- Extensive experience in counselling, assessing and treating children with developmental, cognitive, social and emotional needs. Specifically in the following areas: Intellectual disabilities, learning difficulties, Autism Spectrum Disorder, ADHD, ODD and trauma.
- Experience in conducting psychological assessments, quality reports, plan interventions and behaviour support plans using collaborative practice.
- Hold current registration with Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency (AHPRA).
- Hold, or eligible for, membership with the Australian Psychological Society.
- Have current knowledge of the NSW Education System.
- Have the ability to liaise with the community agencies.
- Have excellent organizational, communication and information technology skills.

It would also be desirable if the successful applicant has:

- An understanding or experience of Positive Psychology.
- Experience with Family Therapy and systemic approaches.
- Experience in conducting group work.

The successful applicant will maintain close communication with the families of students in collaboration with the whole staff.

Applicants would need to have a willingness to become involved in all aspects of school life in this unique situation, including outdoor education and other programs.

The following provides an indication of the responsibilities associated with this temporary, part-time position of School Psychologist:

Junior and Preparatory Schools

- Be readily available to students so that they may raise any concerns.
- Designing and implementing individual and/or group work programs for students experiencing social/emotional/behavioural difficulties.
- Providing a consultancy role to staff with regard to the social/emotional/behavioural wellbeing of students.
- Supporting and encouraging parents in their family role and discussing issues of concern to them when required.
- Assisting the Learning Support Teacher with intervention programs.
- Collaborating with Learning Support re: funding applications for students with disabilities or particular literacy/numeracy needs.
- In collaboration with key stakeholders, design, co-ordinate and monitor Individual Education Plans (“IEP”) for students with additional needs.
- Providing encouragement and support to staff.



- Providing psychometric and educational assessment of students. Recording data and disseminating the information to the Learning Support Teacher and other relevant staff.

Senior School:

- Counselling students experiencing difficulties at home or School or with students who wish to raise concerns or issues that need clarification.
- Consulting with Heads of House, Tutors and staff with regard to the social/emotional/behavioural wellbeing of students.
- Consulting with Head of Student Wellbeing and Leadership regarding the wellbeing program and involvement in Well Being programs and initiatives.
- Involvement in development of Individual Learning Plans.
- Supporting and encouraging parents in their family role and discussing issues of concern to them as needed.
- Collaborating with Learning Support regarding funding applications for students with disabilities or particular literacy/numeracy needs.
- Providing encouragement and support and counselling to staff.
- Providing psychometric and educational assessment of students. Recording data and disseminating the information to the relevant staff.
- Occasional membership of the Pastoral Executive, other committees as required, Learning Support meetings, Teacher/Tutor meetings and Orientation meetings (i.e. Year 7). Attendance at Parent/Teacher evenings as required.
- Preparing and overseeing the budget for the Counselling/Educational Assessment/Remedial/Literacy Program K-12, in consultation with relevant staff.
- Contribute to the co-curricular offering of the Senior School.

Guidelines for the Application

- a) To apply for this position you must be eligible to work in Australia, e.g. hold an appropriate and current Australian work visa.
- b) Applications should have a covering letter, personal statements relating to your Christian philosophy and your approach to nurturing children, followed by responses to the selection criteria.
- c) All applications will be acknowledged upon receipt.
- d) Applications must also include the following information:
 - Personal details (a photograph is optional).
 - Qualifications (please include the date of each qualification and the name of the institution awarding the qualification). Short-listed applicants will be asked to bring original documents or certified copies of transcripts of qualifications to the interview.



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- A summary of your current position.
 - A concise summary of your employment history (beginning with the most recent position).
 - Membership of any professional associations.
 - Co-curricular involvement, interests and expertise.
 - Names, positions and contact details for three (3) referees. Your present Principal should be listed amongst confidential referees (if applicable) as should the Minister of the Church you currently attend.
- e) Applications must be provided unbound. Please do not use display books, folders or staples to enclose your application.
- f) Applications close 5:00pm on **Friday, 29th September 2017**, and can be emailed to:

Ms Janine Hanrahan – PA to the Headmaster
(jhanrahan@bmgns.nsw.edu.au)
Blue Mountains Grammar School
Private Mail Bag 6
Wentworth Falls NSW 2782