

Education Today

Careers in child and
student health and
wellbeing

Every
child,
every
opportunity



Careers in child and student health and wellbeing

There are plenty of challenging, exciting and rewarding careers in Victorian schools and early childhood education and care settings. You don't need to be a teacher to play a vital role in helping each child achieve their potential. It's more than teaching.

Take the first step toward a career in education or early childhood intervention today. To check vacancies or apply online go to www.careers.vic.gov.au or www.teaching.vic.gov.au and follow the links to Other Careers in Education.

Challenging

Take the challenge and put your skills as a health professional to work supporting children to learn and develop in an early childhood education and care setting or a Victorian government school.

Exciting

When you work with children, no two days are the same. Extend your professional horizons and develop innovative ways to help each child and young person achieve their potential.

Rewarding

Be part of the system that is making a difference and shaping young lives.



Pursue a fulfilling career working with children in anything from speech pathology to psychology.

Victoria's teachers do a great job in educating children but they can't do it alone. When a child needs extra support, schools and early childhood education and care settings rely on qualified professionals who work in health and wellbeing. This makes sure each young child and student has the opportunity to achieve their potential.

Speech pathologists, psychologists, occupational therapists, physiotherapists, social workers and nurses all work in Victorian schools and early childhood education and care settings assisting children, their families and staff.

Often working in collaboration with families and teachers, these health and wellbeing professionals work one on one with young children and students to deliver services at home, in the classroom or early childhood education and care settings.

Health professionals working with young children and students may be based in regional offices or within a school setting.

Speech pathologists – communicating clearly

Speech pathologists work with young children and students who have a communication disability. These communication disabilities include problems with speech, using and understanding language, voice, fluency, and can have an affect on the child's functioning in a range of areas.

Individual therapy, work in small groups or in the classroom and home-based programs are offered by speech pathologists working in education or early childhood intervention. They aim to improve a child's quality of life by helping

them to communicate better during play, school and home activities.

In addition, speech pathologists provide information, advice and resources for young children, students and their families.

Qualification

A tertiary degree level qualification in speech pathology and eligibility for membership with Speech Pathology Australia.

Speech Pathology qualifications for Victorian students are offered at La Trobe University and Charles Sturt University. Additional information can be found at:

www.speechpathologyaustralia.org.au

Psychologists – help with social and emotional problems

Psychologists in early childhood intervention or education offer counselling and support for young people who are experiencing issues such as emotional concerns, educational difficulties or behavioural problems.

They may work with families on issues such as:

- Loss or grief
- Parenting
- Raising a child with a disability.

Psychologists working in education or early childhood intervention may provide individual therapy, work in small groups, in the classroom or early childhood education and care settings or undertake home-based programs.

They may conduct educational assessments and provide information, advice and resources for young children, students and their families.

Qualification

A tertiary degree level qualification in psychology and registration with the Psychologists Registration Board of Victoria.

Psychology qualifications for Victorian students are offered at most Victorian Universities. Additional information can be found at www.psychology.org.au

Occupational therapists – promoting participation

Occupational therapists work with young children and students who have a learning difficulty, a physical disability, delayed development or are recovering from illness or injury. Their role is to assist these children to participate in everyday activities such as self-care, play or school activities. They help to achieve this by working with the individual, their families, teachers and carers and by modifying the school, early childhood education and care settings or home environment.

Working with children, their families, their teachers and carers, occupational therapists aim to improve the child's quality of life by helping them to participate in play, preschool, school and home activities.

Qualification

A tertiary degree level qualification in Occupational Therapy and eligibility for membership of the Australian Association of Occupational Therapists.

Occupational Therapy qualifications for Victorian students are offered at Deakin University, La Trobe University, Monash University and Charles Sturt University. Additional information can be found at www.ausot.com.au

Physiotherapists – strong and healthy bodies

Physiotherapists work with young children and students who have an injury, illness or disability that affects their movement. Working with children, families, teachers and carers, physiotherapists tailor an individual program that aims to improve the child's quality of life by helping them to physically participate in play, preschool, school and home activities.

A physiotherapist who works in education or early childhood intervention services may use methods such as play, exercise, motivation, special equipment and education to help children improve their physical function.

Services may be delivered at a school or early childhood education and care setting or in the family's home.

Qualification

A tertiary degree level qualification in physiotherapy and current registration with the Physiotherapists Registration Board of Victoria.

Physiotherapy qualifications for Victorian students are offered at La Trobe University, Monash University and the University of Melbourne. Additional information can be found at www.physiotherapy.asn.au

Social workers – supporting families and young people

Social workers provide support, counselling and referral for families whose child has a physical or emotional health problem or disability.

They provide assistance to families with young children and their communities to enhance the wellbeing of young children and students, particularly those at risk.

They may work with families on issues such as:

- Loss or grief
- Parenting
- Raising a child with a disability.

Qualification

A tertiary degree level qualification in Social Work or equivalent and eligibility for membership of the Australian Association of Social Workers.

Courses for Victorian students are offered at most Victorian universities. Additional information can be found at www.aasw.asn.au

Nurses – healthier schools and students

School nurses are at the frontline of assisting students in making healthier life choices. They provide preventative health care and assist young people with:

- Health education
- Counselling
- Assessment, support and referral
- Health promotion activities.

Qualification

A tertiary degree level qualification in nursing and current registration as a Division 1 nurse with the Victorian Nurses Board of Victoria.

Nursing qualifications for Victorian students are available at most Victorian Universities. Additional information can be found at www.apna.asn.au

Choose from hundreds of jobs in metropolitan Melbourne and rural and regional Victoria

The Victorian Government is the largest employer in Victorian education, managing more than 1,600 government schools in metropolitan, regional and rural Victoria. It employs more than 50,000 people in a variety of teaching and non-teaching roles in early childhood education and primary, secondary and special education schools.

Careers in child and student health and wellbeing offer professional advancement and management and leadership opportunities

One of the great things about working for Government is the chance to shape the kind of career you want, with structured learning and development and merit-based career movement.

You can take advantage of individual training and development opportunities to help you gain qualifications and skills that are portable and develop your talents.

Enjoy flexible, family friendly working conditions and work/life balance

Flexible, family-friendly conditions for a work/life balance are available so you can have a rewarding career without sacrificing your personal life. Flexible work options such as part-time work let you combine satisfying work with the things you want and need to do, such as care for children or elderly parents or undertake voluntary and community work.

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