



Let's talk about...

Referee Reports for Registration

A referee report attests to both the applicant's suitability and practice competence. The person completing the report should be able to vouch that the hospital play specialist's (HPS) work is of a high standard ethically and professionally. The referee is testifying that they have observed the HPS's practice and that the practice meets and abides by the [Hospital Play Specialist Association Competencies](#) and they will vouch that the work is of a high standard ethically and professionally under the following headings:

- Professional knowledge and practice
- Safe, ethical and legal practice
- Culturally safe practice
- Communication
- Professional relationships
- Professional development and leadership.

The person who endorses the referee report, has an overview of the applicant's practice, and is generally either a Practice Supervisor, Team Leader or Service Manager who either agrees with the statements in the referee report, or if not, records their comments on the form before being sent to the Registration Council.

Requirements within Referee Reports

Following two sections are to be completed:

Section A Statement of Recommendation; to be completed by a registered hospital play specialist who has known the applicant for at least 6 months, has had opportunities to observe the applicant's practice and is sufficiently familiar with their practice to attest to their competence or otherwise.

When completed this Report is to be sent directly to the applicant's nominated professional leader for endorsement (Please ensure NZHPS Registration number is on the document before it is sent)

Section B provides an endorsement of Section A. Statement of Recommendation and must be completed by the applicant's nominated professional leader who is familiar with the applicant's good character and professional practice.

Following endorsement, both sections of the completed form should be sent to the HPSRC (scanned and emailed to hpsreg@gmail.com), not returned to the applicant.

The Registration Handbook- Appendix F Referee form is available as a separate [HPSRC Referee Report form](#).



Shared Responsibility - Attestation by a Registered Hospital Play Specialist

If you have been asked to be the Registered Hospital Play Specialist referee for a colleague you should ensure that you feel comfortable with their overall ability to fulfill the role, confident that their practice reflects the specific competencies and the related criteria laid out by the Hospital Play Specialist Association. To do this requires that you have had the opportunity to observe their practice and engage in professional discussions with them. The detail in the Hospital Play Specialist Association Professional Competencies provides a guideline; if you are unsure of particular aspects of your colleague's work or practice talk to them; clarify how they provide this type of service or further their learning.

Providing a referee report, and specifically confirming that you believe your colleague is practicing at a good standard, reflects not only on them, but also on you. If you have concerns about their practice you have the right to decline their request to provide a Referee Report or highlight your concerns in confidence to the Hospital Play Specialists Registration Council. As hospital play specialists, we work very hard as individuals and as an Association, to ensure that we build trust and respect with children, young people and families and whanau and within multidisciplinary teams.

Ensuring a high quality and standard of practice is now a shared responsibility; it is an integral part of the continued growth of this profession.