

## **Hospital Play Specialist Play Specialist - Children's Ward**

### **Dunedin Hospital**

- Do you have an in-depth knowledge and understanding of Te Whāriki, the early childhood curriculum?
- Are you passionate about the power of play for children to make sense of the world around them?
- 16hrs per fortnight, permanent opportunity

Are you looking for a new challenge in a unique environment? Southern District Health Board has an exciting opportunity for you to make a difference to the lives of children & young people. We are seeking an enthusiastic and experienced early childhood teacher to join us as a Hospital Play Specialist at Dunedin Hospital on a part-time, permanent basis.

### **About the service**

Our hospital play specialist Service at Southern DHB is committed to maintaining a child's learning and development while enhancing their ability to cope with illness, hospitalisation and treatments. We work with children from birth to 16 years, using play as a tool to normalise their experience and minimise the psychological impact on the child while in hospital.

### **Mō te tūranga - About the role**

As a hospital play specialist, you will support infants, children and young people to become confident and competent learners within the context of their hospital experience. With a strong educational and psychosocial framework that supports whānau involvement, you will facilitate children's continued development and their ability to cope successfully with challenges related to their hospital visit.

You will help normalise the hospital visit in a play space; familiarising children with medical equipment or procedures; supporting children during procedures, including blood tests; or developing and practising coping strategies. This role is challenging but very rewarding when working with children, their whānau and our wider multi-disciplinary team.

Reporting to the Charge Nurse Manager, you will be required to assess, plan and develop an infant, child or young person centred plan for their care and education, following up with implementation and evaluation. You will use contemporary research and evidence-based practice to ensure safe, high-quality interventions.

[View position description](#)

### **Mōu ake - About you**

It's really important that you can work with young and older children and are able to engage and work closely with parents/family/whanau. You will not be phased by the hospital environment, and can thrive working in a wider multidisciplinary team. You believe in the importance of play and its positive effects on the well-being of children.

### **To succeed in this role, you will also need to have:**

- Registration as an EC teacher with a current practicing certificate
- Excellent communication skills and ability to build rapport quickly with those around you
- Experience of working with young people and families from diverse ethnic backgrounds

If you are passionate about advocating for the importance of play during challenging times in children's lives, apply today!

## **Painga - Benefits**

- Beautiful coastlines and a family-friendly community
- Continuous support for career development
- Subsidised gym membership and discounted health insurance
- Access to staff fitness facilities and banking offers
- Access to a range of retail discounts and Employee Assistance Programme (EAP)

## **Mō mātou - About us**

Te Whatu Ora - Southern has the largest geographical coverage of all the New Zealand regions, providing services to 350,000 people in diverse communities. We take pride in all the services we provide, and our aim is to improve, promote and protect the health of our region. We believe that our dedicated and passionate staff are a significant driving force behind the achievement of these standards, and we need more like-minded people to help us continue providing for our community.

## **Utu whānui - Salary range**

This role belongs to the PSA/DHBs Allied, Public Health and Technical Multi-Employer Collective Agreement and falls between Step 1 (\$70,842 p.a) and Step 7 (\$100,466 p.a pro rata) of the Degree-Based Allied, Public Health and Technical scale.

## **Rā mōnehu - Closing date: Tuesday, 12 March 2024.**

Due to the fast-paced nature of what we do, our vacancy close dates may be subject to change. Don't delay, make sure you apply as soon as possible.

## **Tono ināianei - Apply now**

For further information please contact James Boyd Recruitment Advisor, all conversations will be confidential in nature [James.Boyd@southernhnb.govt.nz](mailto:James.Boyd@southernhnb.govt.nz)

## **Pre-employment checks**

**In the interests of protecting our people and our patients, all appointments will be subject to the following:**

- Occupational health assessment
- Police vetting/Ministry of Justice safety checks
- Serious misconduct checks (previous Public Service departments and statutory Crown entities only)
- Covid-19 vaccination is expected for all workers at higher risk of workplace exposure to Covid-19 through face-to-face patient interaction, working in clinical areas and contact with potentially infectious materials and surfaces

## **To apply**

We only accept online applications. Please apply via our website: <https://careers.southernhealth.nz/>