



Professional Competencies

Competency 1 Professional knowledge in practice	Competency 2 Safe, ethical and legal practice	Competency 3 Culturally safe practice	Competency 4 Communication	Competency 5 Professional relationships	Competency 6 Professional development and leadership
Outcome Facilitates educational and therapeutic programmes for pēpē, tamariki and rangatahi	Outcome Practices safely, ethically, and in conformance with legal and professional requirements.	Outcome Recognises and is respectful of individual, whānau and cultural values of tamariki, rangatahi and their whānau.	Outcome Communicates effectively with tamariki, rangatahi, whānau, with colleagues, and others.	Outcome Relates to others in a professional, collaborative, collegial and supportive manner.	Outcome Continually develops professional knowledge and practice and seeks and uses opportunities to show leadership.
Criteria Provides activities and programmes that support learning and development for pēpē/tamariki/rangatahi by: - Creates an environment where stress and anxiety are reducedAdvocates for the value of play and of practices that are supportiveAllows expression of feelings and concerns.	Criteria Complies with the Hospital Play Specialists Association of Aotearoa/ NZ Code of Ethics. Complies with relevant legislation, regulations, codes, service standards, policies, procedures and professional guidelines, e.g. Ministry of Education Early Childhood Regulations. Develops and maintains a safe environment and	Criteria Identifies personal and professional cultural values, beliefs, attitudes and prejudices and understands their potential impact on practice. Is respectful of the values, beliefs, attitudes and practices of tamariki, rangatahi, whānau and colleagues. Acknowledges the uniqueness of each tamariki and rangatahi	Criteria Adapts style and method of communication to suit the individual tamariki, rangatahi, and whānau. Assists tamariki, rangatahi, and whānau to identify and communicate their own needs. Addresses cultural and language differences and their potential impact on communication. Responsibly shares	Criteria Develops effective and collaborative relationships to ensure best outcomes for tamariki, rangatahi, and whānau. Articulates and demonstrates the role and function of a hospital play specialist. Uses feedback, supervision, support and guidance to improve practice through critical reflection. Provides	Criteria Maintains knowledge of current hospital play specialist-related theories and practice. Maintains knowledge and skills required for specific settings. Demonstrates commitment to critical inquiry and problem-solving in professional practice. Engages in regular and ongoing supervision.
-Assesses and responds to strengths, needs and interestsProvides therapeutic	manages potential risks. Demonstrates professional accountability by	in the context of their whānau and the wider community. Has knowledge of Te Tiriti o	knowledge and communicates all relevant information to colleagues and whānau	appropriate support and guidance to colleagues, students and volunteers. Develops relationships	Contributes to the hospital play specialist body of knowledge by sharing knowledge and





play and preparation, coping strategies and other interventions to enhance understanding and help pēpē/ tamariki/ rangatahi, whānau manage illness, hospitalisation and treatment. Supports whānau, including siblings, and enhances whānau involvement in their child's care and education. Contributes to clinical decision making.

documenting and reporting information effectively. Uses ethical reasoning to make and justify decisions on challenging issues. Maintains professional boundaries. Demonstrates an awareness of the scope and limitations of hospital play specialist practice and of own personal knowledge and skills. Understands operational structures, priorities and objectives of the workplace. Manages workload and meets responsibilities in a timely manner. Attends to self care.

Waitangi and works effectively within the bicultural context of healthcare settings to address aspirations of Māori . Shows ongoing commitment to increasing knowledge base and skills relating to culturally safe practice.

in a timely and professional manner. Manages conflict effectively and works actively to achieve resolution. Utilises a range of media and ICT to communicate effectively.

with local institutions and community groups.

skills with others, both formally and informally. Demonstrates an understanding of research processes and the interpretation of results. Actively participates in performance development and review processes. Contributes to team functioning and to the wider professional learning community. Is proactive in seeking opportunities for responsibility and leadership. Demonstrates an awareness of the impact of social and political factors on HPS services.

¹ Reviewed August 2023