What is Anglicare WA's Student Wellbeing Service?

Funded through the Department of Education, Anglicare WA's Student Wellbeing Service aims to build the confidence and resilience of children and young people so that they can remain engaged and connected to school, fulfil their potential, and become active members of their communities.

Our Student Wellbeing Officers work alongside primary and high school wellbeing teams to support the growth and development of individual students, school culture, and community links with Anglicare WA's programs and services.

Student Wellbeing Officers report day-to-day to school principals or an assigned delegate within the school, however they also have access to a wide range of Anglicare WA organisational supports and professional development.

The day-to-day activities of Student Wellbeing Officers vary according to the unique needs and requirements of individual schools; however, a typical day may include:

- Engagement with students through a diverse range of school-based activities
- Individual informal support for students that is strengths-based and solution focused
- Provision, brokerage and/or facilitation of school wellbeing workshops or programs
- Support for students to connect with professional staff within the school
- Support for young people to access and connect with community based services
- Contribution to the development of whole-school wellbeing strategies

What sort of qualifications and experience do Student Wellbeing Officers need?

Student Wellbeing Officers are generally suitably experienced individuals who hold – or are nearing completion of – qualifications such as a Certificate IV in Youth Work or Diploma of Counselling.

Suitably experienced individuals without one of these qualifications but who hold an aligned Certificate IV qualification from the Community Services Training Package may be eligible for a 'qualifications waiver' which enables them to commence in the role while undertaking additional study requirements (between 1- 3 units from the Community Services Training Package). To be eligible for a waiver you must also have completed two-day *Applied Suicide Intervention Skills Training (ASIST)* OR two-day *Gatekeeper Training* OR two-day *Youth Mental Health First Aid* prior to commencing in the role. These units and courses are undertaken at the individual's own time and expense and must be completed within a 12-month period. Further information about waivers is available here.

Student Wellbeing Officers will have:

- Contemporary knowledge of the issues impacting children and young people
- Demonstrated ability to engage and build strong relationships with children and young people
- Experience in providing individual support to children and young people that is strengthsbased, solution-focused and trauma-informed
- The ability to work in a team and to work collaboratively with others
- The ability to build and maintain professional networks
- The ability to accept, respect and work with children and young people:
 - o from a broad range of backgrounds and abilities

- o from different cultures, particularly with Aboriginal & CaLD young people
- o who may identify as LGBTIQ+
- o from all belief systems
- Good written and verbal communication skills
- The ability to facilitate small groups

What are the opportunities for Student Wellbeing Officers?

While we aim to place Student Wellbeing Officers from the beginning of Term 1, roles may become available in both metropolitan and regional schools across the State at any time during the school year.

Funding for Student Wellbeing Officers operates on a school-year to school-year basis. Consequently, the maximum length of Student Wellbeing Officer contracts is 12 months, the length of contract depending on commencement date. All contracts offered in 2024 will expire in January 2025, however Anglicare WA hopes to build effective partnerships with schools resulting in contract renewals on an annual basis, which may be flowed down to individual Student Wellbeing Officer employment contracts.

Depending on school requirements the role may be for between 1 to 5 days per week. Student Wellbeing Officers can hold more than one role at a time, for example, one person may work at 2 schools who want a Student Wellbeing Officer for 1 day a week each. Note that you cannot hold a Student Wellbeing Officer role position at a school if you hold an existing role within that school.

What are the remuneration and benefits for Student Wellbeing Officers?

- Employed under Anglicare WA's Employee Collective Agreement
- Contract length to January the following school year
- Work only during school terms (maximum of 40 weeks per year)
- Working day is 7.5 hours
- \$41.52/hour + 11% super + annual leave and personal leave (accrued based on hours worked)
- Pay for hours worked (+ accrued annual leave) is spread across the entire term of employment contract, ensuring a pay every fortnight
- Additional renumeration for induction training and required professional development
- Salary Packaging Benefits (package up to \$15,900 per annum)

Practical example:

A Student Wellbeing Officer works at Example High School 5 days per week for the 40 weeks of the school year. They also work a week's worth of induction and training, equalling a total of 41 full-time weeks worked across the year. This equates to \$63,837 gross earned annually, plus accrued annual leave. To ensure the SWO receives a pay each fortnight, the \$63,837 plus accrued annual leave is spread across the entire term of the contract.

How can I apply to be a Student Wellbeing Officer?

Positions for Student Wellbeing Officer roles will be advertised on SEEK as they become available. In regional and remote locations we may also use local networks (for example, community newsletters or Facebook pages).

Because Student Wellbeing Officers are employed by Anglicare WA and placed in schools, there are also additional steps to our recruitment process. The process involves a written application (including a detailed academic record); submission of a short one-way video recorded interview and a face-to-face interview. Our proposed candidate will also meet with the school Principal – this is an opportunity for the school and the candidate to make sure the placement will be a good fit on both sides.

In addition to holding a current Working with Children Check, all Student Wellbeing Officers must also hold a <u>Department of Education Nationally Coordinated Criminal History Check Clearance and Screening Clearance Number.</u> The Department of Education has a strict 'No screen, no start' policy, and no other police clearances are accepted. The cost is \$46.00, payable by the applicant.

If you are interested in working for Anglicare WA as a Student Wellbeing Officer, and believe you have the right qualifications and experience, <u>please provide your contact details via the form here</u>, and your name will be placed on an email list to be notified when positions become available in your region. If you choose not to submit your contact details, you can visit SEEK at any time to view future recruitment opportunities.