



Senior Psychologist

Permanent, full-time, Whakatakapokai, Auckland

About us - Mō mātou

Oranga Tamariki - Ministry for Children has a commitment to putting tamariki and rangatahi at the heart of what we do. In our work, we aim to demonstrate these values:

- We put **Tamariki** first
- We believe **Aroha** is vital
- We respect the **Mana** of people
- We are **Tika** and **Pono**
- We value **Whakapapa**
- We recognise that **Oranga** is a journey

About the Residence

Our Youth Justice Residences provide a safe, secure and supportive environment where rangatahi in our care can make changes to get their lives back on track. Whakatakapokai is one of five Youth Justice Residences operating across Aotearoa that operate 24 hours a day, 7 days a week providing residential placements and programmes for rangatahi aged 13 to 19 years who have been charged with or convicted of an offence.

Our vision at Whakatakapokai is to create a unique, therapeutic, safe and restorative care environment that enables rangatahi to strengthen their connection with whānau, hapū, iwi and their culture; and develop the skills to make positive decisions to support them to flourish and transform their lives, reducing the risk of reoffending.

Whakatakapokai is strongly focused on achieving positive change in rangatahi through education, skill development, vocational programmes, and therapeutic and cultural interventions using a Māori world centric view (Te Ao Māori). Our overall goal is that rangatahi who come into our care are positively integrated back into their community and reduce the risk of reoffending with their mana restored.

About the role - Mō te tūnga

As a Senior Psychologist in our leadership team you will provide expertise in the application of psychological and therapeutic science that contribute to youth offending. You will contribute to the care and support of our rangatahi by providing specialised assessments and treatment, which are heavily based on practices that incorporates the values of biculturalism and equity. Your expertise in applying psychological knowledge will also enhance the team's understanding surrounding the young person to improve the effectiveness of our outcomes. You will work within our multidisciplinary environment to get better therapeutic care plans for better outcomes for our young people in our care.

We need you to have an understanding of mental health and other legislation to provide advice and training for our helpful team to improve practices and site-initiated program

To be successful in this role you will have the following:

- A Masters or Doctoral degree Psychology and Annual Practicing Certificate with the Psychologists Board of New Zealand with the Clinical or General Scope of Practice (or eligibility to Register). People with the general scope should have extensive experience in a forensic setting with young people
- An understanding of tikanga Māori, the importance of whakapapa and appreciation of cultural differences and how this should influence practice
- Continual research and up to date knowledge of rehabilitation practices
- People leadership experience, specifically with implementing new practices
- Proven relationship management experience, with the ability to influence, negotiate and persuade across group and service boundaries to achieve desired outcomes
- Ability to work in a multidisciplinary team environment
- An understanding of legislative and regulatory accountabilities in psychology and care treatment
- Understanding of the impact of neuro-disability, trauma and attachment on a young person's behaviour

In return we offer a supportive team and annual remuneration between \$95,242 - \$142,878. We also support continuing competency programmes.

How to apply

Please apply via our careers page <https://jobs.msd.govt.nz/> and click the 'apply' button on the position advertisement, applications must be made online. Please ensure you upload your CV and covering letter as they are an important part of your application.

Internal employees, please apply through your myHR portal at work. For any assistance with your application please contact kristianne.hoey@ot.govt.nz

Applications close Thursday, 17 December 2020.

If you require a copy of the position description for this role, please contact kristianne.hoey@ot.govt.nz

To apply, please click here: https://jobs.msd.govt.nz/job/Auckland-Manager-Therapeutic-Specialist-Support-Oranga-Tamariki/675272300/?locale=en_GB