

Occupational Therapist

Section / Service	Kurrajong Therapy Plus
Location:	Wagga Wagga/Griffith/Tumut
Reporting to:	Occupational Therapist Supervisor and Manager Kurrajong Therapy Plus
Supervises (direct and indirect):	nil
Last reviewed:	October 2019

About Kurrajong - Kurrajong is a voluntary charitable organisation offering a broad range of services to babies, children, young people and adults with disabilities (aged 0-65) and their families. Kurrajong is registered as a provider of National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS) services and supports.

Our Vision - To create open, accessible and inclusive communities for all people.

Our Attributes – We care, we are community focused on the needs of people with disability and their families, our services are anchored in the communities we serve, we seek continuous improvement and excellence.

About the Service - Kurrajong Therapy Plus provides supports to children, young people and adults with disability and/or complex developmental delays.

Kurrajong Therapy Plus consists of a unique multidisciplinary team of Speech Pathologists, Occupational Therapists, Physiotherapists, Allied Health Assistants, Educators and Aides.

Kurrajong Therapy Plus is a one stop shop for supporting people and their family/carer to assist with learning, development, inclusive community access, specific therapeutic supports and prescription of specialised equipment for all people with disability.

Position Summary:

The primary role of the Occupational Therapist is to enhance children, young people and adult's ability to participate in the every-day occupations of play, learning, self-care, rest and productivity (preschool/school and work occupations).

Position Key Responsibilities

It is expected that the Occupational Therapist will perform the following activities:

1. **Assessment** – To be responsible for the assessment of the occupational performance in self care, learning, play, rest and productivity. Assessment includes consideration of the impact of both environmental and personal factors (ie: bio-mechanical, sensory-motor, cognitive, and intra- and inter-personal skills). To provide appropriate assessment reports ranging from informal play based assessment to standardised assessment reports.
2. **Therapy** – to implement appropriate occupational therapy programs using an appropriate intervention style. Service delivery includes centre based, group based intervention, home visits and community supports.

Position description

3. Equipment - Adaptive equipment and technology prescription and training.
4. Environmental Modification - recommendations regarding physical and sensory environmental modifications to promote participation in occupational roles, environmental access and safety.
5. Upper limb management including splinting and casting in order to maintain range of movement and promote hand function.
6. Person/Family Centred Practice – to support clients to achieve their goals and work with their strengths and priorities.
7. Key Worker - be responsible for the coordination of Individual Family Service Plans and the overall management of the child and family's program.
8. Communication – to participate as an active member of the trans-disciplinary team and be able to 'multi-skill' and 'role release' within the team.
9. Liaise – to liaise with other professionals, services and other medical practitioners in relation to the implementation and coordination of programs developed by the family and team.
10. Administrative – to prepare and maintain documentation and correspondence including assessment reports, progress notes, data entry and referral letters and to attend and participate in all appropriate meetings.
11. Professional Development – to keep abreast of current professional issues and evidence based practice.
12. Supervision - to participate in regular individual, discipline and team meetings. With supervisor discuss caseload management, provide evidence of clinical reasoning and evidence based practice. At supervision, be accountable for caseload planning, 80% of time recorded on outlook calendar and expectation of experienced staff to achieve 20 billable hours per week (pro rata).
13. Other Duties – to perform any other service based duties as directed by the Manager at Kurrajong Therapy Plus.
14. Mandatory reporter - please refer to Kurrajong Child Protection Policy.

The Occupational Therapist will focus on developing childhood occupations of self care, play, rest and productivity (pre-school skills). Occupational therapy may involve;

Parent/carer training	Education of parents/carers about a child's needs. For example 'toilet time' workshop.
Development of 'foundation' skills related to an occupational goal.	Therapeutic strategies to help improve particular 'foundation' skills. In particular; fine motor skills, sensory processing, visual perception, paying attention, motor planning and problem solving.
Skills training for tasks	For example getting dressed, using cutlery, toilet training, having a bath, rest and relaxation, playing, using scissors, pre-writing skills
Upper Limb Management	For example. splinting, casting, range of movement programs, post Botox/surgery programs.
Seating & Wheelchair Prescription	E.G wheelchairs, positioning for play.

Position description

Adaptive Equipment	Helpful devices, equipment and technology- prescription and training in use.
Environmental Modifications	Recommendations regarding physical and sensory environmental modifications to promote occupational performance, environmental access and safety.

Priority is given to:

- ✓ Issues of SAFETY and HEALTH (may include adaptive equipment prescription, environmental modifications, upper limb management to prevent deformity/maintain joint integrity, family crisis impacting on safety and health)
- ✓ TRANSITION issues (may include adaptive equipment, adaptive technology, specific skill development/facilitation).
- ✓ Development of skills in Play, Self Care, Preschool domains (may include, adaptive equipment/technology, upper limb management, environmental modifications, skills training, development of component skills in order to achieve goal (development of fine motor skills, sensory processing, cognitive skills, inter/intra personal skills for example).

Position Criteria

Qualification, Certificates and Licences

1. Relevant undergraduate and or post graduate qualifications in Occupational Therapy
2. Registration with AHPRA
3. Current Class C Drivers Licence
4. Current NSW Working with Children Check
5. National Police History Check for Aged/Children/Disabled/Vulnerable (conducted by Kurrajong)

Experience, Skills & Knowledge

1. Relevant experience working as an Occupational Therapist or a recent graduate with relevant placement experience
2. Ability to work as part of a multi-disciplinary team and also independently
3. Experience working with KPI's and demonstrated experience in achieving these outcomes
4. Sound communication skills (oral and written)
5. Sound knowledge of family/person centred practice and experience working with people with disability and their families
6. Ability to implement Work Health and Safety, Risk Management and Quality Assurance requirements

Position description

Risk assessed role requirements in accordance with the NDIS Quality and Safeguarding Standards

- ☐ National Police Check for Aged/Children/Disabled/Vulnerable (conducted by Kurrajong)
- ☐ Working with Children Check
- ☐ NDIS Worker Orientation – Quality, Safety and You

Signed and Accepted:

Staff Signature: [acceptance_status] Date: [acceptance_date]