



EDMUND RICE EDUCATION  
AUSTRALIA



## Marlene Moore Flexi Schools Network

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### Position Description and Application Information: Youth Worker

#### Hemmant Flexible Learning Centre

For more information about this position, please contact Matt Hawkins, Head of Campus.

E: [matt.hawkins@youthplus.edu.au](mailto:matt.hawkins@youthplus.edu.au)

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<b>Role Title</b>	Youth Worker (with a capacity to offer engagement programs in one or more areas – see skills & knowledge below)
<b>Contract</b>	Permanent
<b>Start Date</b>	January 2020
<b>Hours</b>	Full time
<b>Closing Date for Applications</b>	4pm Monday 16 September 2019
<b>School Network</b>	Hemmant Flexible Learning Centre, under Marlene Moore Flexi Schools Network
<b>Reports To</b>	Head of Campus at Hemmant Flexible Learning Centre
<b>Band/Wage Scale</b>	<i>School Officer Award, Queensland Catholic Employing Authority Single Enterprise Collective Agreement Religious Institute Schools of Queensland</i>

#### BACKGROUND

Marlene Moore Flexi Schools Network (MMFSN) is an initiative of Youth+ and The Trustees of Edmund Rice Education Australia. Our services including Flexible Learning Centres (FLCs) offer a full-time and multiyear secondary education and social inclusion program for young people who have disenfranchised from mainstream structures. Young people may express a broad range of complex education and social needs and the Youth+ services respond with a variety of flexible and innovative social inclusion and learning experiences.

Youth + services provide young people with a varied and holistic set of learning experiences supporting

them to identify and pursue an individual transition to adulthood, employment, further education and training and social connectedness.

Young people who attend include indigenous and non-indigenous young people who are disengaged from mainstream education for a range of reasons and include:

- Those who have had contact with the juvenile justice system;
- Those in the care of the Office of Children and Families;
- Those with a history of trauma;
- Those with a history of extended periods of unexplained absences;
- Those who are highly mobile;
- Those with mental illness or at risk of engaging in self harming behaviours or substance abuse;
- Those who have been excluded or repeatedly suspended from school;
- Those who are homeless;
- Those who are young parents;
- Those with a generational history of early school leaving;
- Those with a generational history of unemployment

See [www.youthplus.edu.au](http://www.youthplus.edu.au) for further information.

#### PRIMARY MODE

The Youth Worker reports to the Head of Campus and Principal, Marlene Moore Flexi Schools Network. He/She has responsibility to support engagement, wellbeing and social inclusion responses of the campus. He/She provides wellbeing support to the young people of the campus including engagement and program activities. She/He works collaboratively and is supported by Teachers, Youth/Social Workers and the Head of Campus.

#### SKILLS AND KNOWLEDGE

- Demonstrated skills and knowledge in youth engagement, with at least one area of expertise e.g. Visual Arts, Sport and Recreation, OABL, Construction, Music, Catering, Skateboarding, Social Enterprise etc.
- Ability to analyse complex situations and implementation of appropriate strategies to support young people.
- Demonstrated capacity to work effectively as a member of a multidisciplinary team.
- Demonstrated ability to work collaboratively and establish and maintain professional relationships with all stakeholders.

#### PRINCIPLES OF OPERATION (RESPECT, PARTICIPATION, SAFE AND LEGAL, HONESTY):

A primary responsibility for this role is to maintain fidelity to Operation by Principle and the best practice guidelines as articulated in the Youth+ Foundation and FLC Occasional Papers (available on the website).

## DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

Typical duties and responsibilities include but are not restricted to:

### 1. Develop and coordinate external support networks

- Liaise and develop service referral and provision with government and non-government agencies at appropriate levels to support health, mental health and wellbeing needs of young people
- Support young people to access support services e.g. counseling, health support, community activities
- Work collaboratively with the team to support/develop cultural links, community and family connections which support the engagement and connection of young people to learning and the wider community

### 2. Participate in program provision to ensure wellbeing in an inclusive learning environment

- Collaborate with the team to support a socially inclusive program that responds to the physical, intellectual, social, spiritual and cultural needs of young people
- Participate in the daily routines and activities of the FLC e.g. morning meetings, lunch, electives, outings, camps
- Undertake a direct program provision role with a focus on health, wellbeing and engagement within the FLC, particularly through the areas of music and/or art
- In collaboration with other staff develop and provide a range of programs/activities during the school holidays to maintain connections for young people
- Take a key role in following up with non-attendance including phone calls, home visits

### 3. Team participation/multidisciplinary practice

- Participate in professional supervision
- Participate in regular whole team reflective practice sessions including daily staff debrief

### 4. Support child protection procedures according to policy

In consultation with the Head of Campus

- Provide a support service to young people dealing with issues of child protection
- Provide a referral point for young people to appropriate support services as indicated

### 5. Administrative Responsibilities

- Maintain appropriate records and prepare reports as required
- Maintain Young People records on the database
- Support the development of personal learning plans with Young People

### 6. Lead and support professional practice which is culturally appropriate

- Work collaboratively with the team to ensure program provision is culturally appropriate
- Sourcing and provision of activities which support cultural links and community engagement

- Work collaboratively with the team to develop community and family connections which support the engagement and connection of young people to learning and the wider community

#### 7. Other identified duties specific to the role in this Flexible Learning Centre

### FOUNDATION STATEMENT

Youth+ seeks to respond to the needs of young people disenfranchised and disengaged from education. They provide a place and an opportunity to re-engage in a suitable, flexible learning environment.

FLCs seek to build honest and authentic relationships with young people, their families and communities, supporting and celebrating the uniqueness and dignity of each person.

FLCs are guided by the vision of Edmund Rice about the empowering service of education, to achieve personal and community liberation through educational experiences that enable transformation.

### APPLICATION PROCESS AND SELECTION CRITERIA

Applications should be forwarded to [MMRecruitment@youthplus.edu.au](mailto:MMRecruitment@youthplus.edu.au) by **4pm Monday 16 September 2019** and need to include:

- A cover letter, outlining relevant experience and reasons for wishing to apply
- Response to the following Selection Criteria (no more than three pages):
  - Demonstrated skills and experience in supporting youth in an educational or community setting, in particular demonstrated success in building relationships with disenfranchised young people.
  - Understanding of or the ability to acquire an understanding of working within a common ground framework and under four principles of operation: Respect, Safe and Legal, Honesty and Participation.
  - Highly developed interpersonal skills in the context of relating to work colleagues, young people and parents in a cross-cultural environment e.g. working with ATSI, LGBTQI young people, Students with a Disability etc.
  - Demonstrated skills and experience in one or more engagement strategies for Disenfranchised Young People e.g. OABL, Music, Art, Construction or other engagement strategies
- Current resume outlining previous experience and skills
  - Including two referees (including contact details) – please include a referee from current or most recent place of employment

**Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people are encouraged to apply.**

Please contact Matt Hawkins on 0414 272 798 or [matt.hawkins@youthplus.edu.au](mailto:matt.hawkins@youthplus.edu.au) for any queries.

### STRATEGIC VALUES

Within our radical, social and ecological justice framework, Flexible Learning Centres are intentional learning communities that articulate the following core values through authenticity and integrity and

are expressed through the life journey of its members.

## SAFETY

Safety within our environment is liberating, holistic and implicit in all aspects of community life. This includes non-violence, peaceful resolution of conflict, celebration of diversity, freedom from judgement, security to take emotional and intellectual risks.

## RELATIONSHIP

Relationships are formed on shared common ground with compassion and love, respecting and celebrating the individual. We embrace the connectedness of complex and authentic relationships within diverse communities.

## COMMUNITY

Our dynamic communities seek to be life giving environments where the dignity of all is honoured. Our communities are multi dimensional spaces for the liberating power of learning and engaging together.

## TRANSFORMATION

We walk together on journeys of individual and community transformation. We are sustained by and celebrate our commitment to hope, optimism and a belief in the possible.

## ECO-JUSTICE

Eco-justice calls us to enact our responsibility to the interconnectedness, sacredness and dignity of all creation.