

Educator

Position Description

Overview:

Remote and Isolated Children's Exercise (RICE) is a not for profit organisation with the primary aim to provide accessible childcare, education and resources to families living in rural and remote pastoral and outback areas in the north of South Australia. RICE is a multi-disciplinary team providing their services to small communities, stations, events and outback areas. Staff travel to these locations over an area spanning 650 000square kilometres. Our office is based in Port Augusta, a central point of our operation.

Key Duties

- The Educator will be actively involved in the efficient running of all RICE programmes, including outback childcare, activity and play days and creches in outback locations in South Australia.
- The Educator will work collaboratively with staff in planning and delivering age appropriate programmes to children in their care, from Birth to 12 years of age. This will be done in accordance with RICE policies and procedures, the Early Years Learning Framework, the National Quality Framework and the Standards Education and Care National Regulation.
- The Educator will work independently or as part of a team to provide a safe, stimulating and child orientated environment where all the children's needs are met.
- Effective communication skills and a positive relationship with management, staff and families is essential.
- Administrative duties including programming and regular child observations will be regularly documented.
- The Educator will be confident to drive the RICE 4WD vehicle to various outback locations and live away from home for up to 12 days on placement.

Other Duties

- Regular travel in RICE 4WD vehicles.
- Cleaning and maintaining resources eg. RICE vehicles, toys and work areas.
- Other duties as necessary and/or as directed by the Director and Board of Management eg newsletters, social media, policies and procedures.
- To maintain a high standard of professionalism and work safety practices at all times.
- Participate in the accreditation process to maintain a high standard of care.

Qualifications and Skills

- Diploma of Children's Services is desirable.
- Minimum of Certificate III in Early Childhood Education and Care is essential.
- WWCC is essential (Formerly DSCI).
- Safe Environments for Children and Young People Certification.
- Current First Aid in an education and care setting.
- Current driver's licence.
- Effective communication skills and building positive relationships with management, staff and families will be essential.
- Understanding of WHS requirements.
- Willingness to undertake 4WD training.
- Willingness to undertake any other relevant training eg anaphylaxis, diabetes.

Special Conditions

- Flexible hours in arrangement with the Director.
- Travelling to remote locations which may require living away from home for up to 12 days with or near children in the educator's care.
- Physical demands: long distance driving, lifting, carrying children and equipment, sitting on floors.

Definitions of Programmes offered by RICE:

Outback Childcare

An educator travels to the family requesting the service, usually living on a station to provide childcare. Families often request childcare for respite or during busy periods of the year (shearing, mustering, crutching), to care for their children. Care is offered during the day with a break for lunch. Children can be aged from birth to 12 years of age. The placement may be up to 12 days long, including travel time, depending on the distance and needs of the family.

Playdays

The educator (with at least two staff) travel to a remote location, either a small town or on a station to provide appropriate child activities for a group of children, who may attend from nearby areas. It is an opportunity for parents to connect and for the children to interact with each other. Depending on the distance staff may stay overnight on site or nearby accommodation. Children are usually preschool aged but older siblings may attend.

Creche Days

These are held regularly at Orroroo (Monday) and Hawker (Friday) Preschools during the school term. Parents leave their preschool children in care of RICE staff who provide various learning opportunities for them.

Activity Days

These are usually held on a weekend in a remote town or on a station to support a local event, such as Gymkhanas, Rodeos, Camp drafts, etc. RICE staff provide activities for children up to 12 years of age (with parental supervision) in a designated area. If the event is a long distance from Port Augusta, staff may be accommodated overnight.