Worawa Aboriginal College
Residential Youth Worker Position Description

1. TITLE: Residential Youth Worker

2. REPORTING RELATIONSHIPS:
Reports to: Head of Boarding.
Internal Liaisons: Academic staff, other Boarding staff, School Nurse and MH & Wellbeing Coordinator.

3. CONTEXT:
Worawa Aboriginal College is Victoria’s only registered Independent Aboriginal School. An Aboriginal Community initiative, the College is governed by an Aboriginal Board and management. A full boarding school, Worawa caters for Aboriginal girls in the middle years of schooling (Years 7-10) through a holistic education based on an integrated education, culture, mental health and wellbeing model. Students are drawn from Aboriginal communities across Australia. Currently the College has a boarding capacity of 65 students.

4. WORAWA MISSION:
(a) To provide an appropriate mainstream education to enable students to attain the confidence, knowledge, skills and attitudes necessary to become fully contributing members of Australian society
(b) To provide students with a sense of their Aboriginal identity, knowledge of their history, confidence in their place as First Australians; and to build their self esteem as a basis for success in their chosen life pursuits.
(c) The task of Worawa Aboriginal College is to nurture and develop the abilities of its students, to demonstrate positive role modelling and build in each student a sense of responsibility for their behaviour and for their fellow human beings.

5. STUDENT PROFILE:
Students at Worawa may be considered “at risk”. Some of the risk factors experienced by Aboriginal girls entering Worawa include one or more of the following: Physical or sexual abuse, exposure to violence, high levels of trauma, lack of adequate parental supervision, neglect, a close family member's drug or alcohol problem, a family breakup, changing family circumstances due to a parent taking on a new partner, family chronic illness, a close family member going to prison, school truancy and / or lack
of engagement, anti-social peer groups and /or peer pressure to engage in crime or lack of access to positive activities.

6. THE RESIDENTIAL SETTING:
The residential setting consists of 5 houses and accommodates a maximum of 83 students.

7. THE POSITION:
   o This position, in conjunction with other residential team members is responsible for maintaining a safe, secure and respectful residential environment in keeping with the Mission of Worawa College.
   o This position reports directly to and is supervised by the Head of Boarding.
   o This position must work within the professional, ethical and legal requirements as set out in the Worawa Staff and House Parent Handbooks.

8. RESPONSIBILITIES:
8.1 Residential Care:
   o Ensure successful daily (after-hours and weekend) operations of the house including agreed programs and student compliance of house rules, which includes keeping the house in a clean and orderly manner.
   o Monitor levels of student behavior and activity to ensure a safe environment.
   o Accompany and supervise the students on any after-hours and/or weekend activities as part of the Residential Program as required.
   o Provide culturally sensitive supervision and support of students while in the residential setting.
   o Ensure the goals of the student’s agreed behavioural management plans are maintained within the residential setting.
   o Respond to critical or emergency incidents that may occur within the residential setting in accordance with organizational policies and procedures.
   o Undertake independent living skills assessments where appropriate.
   o Assist the student’s to develop routines around independent living and social skills.

8.2 Communication and Liaison:
   o Monitor levels of student behavioral activity and report any untoward and/or emergency situation to the Head of Boarding immediately.
   o Liaise with relevant team members and others on the progress and outcome of student mental health, behavior and wellbeing.

8.3 Documentation and Reporting:
   o Receive a verbal handover from the Head of Boarding or other appropriate staff at the commencement of each shift.
   o Provide a verbal handover/report to the Head of Boarding or other appropriate staff at the completion of each shift.
   o Undertake required documentation of student’s behavior, mental health and wellbeing in a timely manner.
   o Report any difficulties with and/or any unsafe use of equipment, furniture or any aspect of the Residential facility to the Head of Boarding in a timely manner.
9. INTERPERSONAL AND COMMUNICATION SKILLS:
   o An ability to relate to others and a high level of interpersonal skills.
   o Assertive and respectful communication skills.
   o Sensitivity towards the needs of others.
   o An ability to remain calm in and manage crisis situations.
   o Experience in working within a team.

10. PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT:
   o Attend relevant professional development activities.
   o Keep up to date with changes to procedural and/or organizational requirements as directed.

11. QUALIFICATIONS, KNOWLEDGE AND EXPERIENCE:
   o Bachelor of Social Science (Youth Work), Diploma of Community Services (Youth Work),
     Teaching, Social Work or similar qualification.
   o Experience in working with adolescents in a residential or school setting is essential.
   o Demonstrated ability to work as a member of a team.
   o A current Victorian Drivers license.

12. DESIRABLE:
   o Level 2 First Aid Certificate or willingness to obtain same.
   o Experience in working with Indigenous people/communities
   o Medium rigid license (for driving school buses)

13. SALARY AND CONDITIONS:
   o To be negotiated in line with qualifications and experience in accordance with the Educational
     Services (Schools) General Staff Award 2010
   o The successful applicant must undergo a Working with Children Check.

14. CONTRACT:
   o Minimum employment period subject to the six months minimum employment period as
     contained in the Fair Work Act 2009

15. HOURS:
   o Full Time and Part-time Positions are available.
   o Hours of work:
     o After hours:
     o Weekend:

16. LOCATION:
   o Healesville, Victoria