

Secretariat for Catholic Education



CALL FOR APPLICATIONS FOR THE POST OF PART-TIME PLAY THERAPIST with the SECRETARIAT FOR CATHOLIC EDUCATION

The Secretariat for Catholic Education would like to remind all interested applicants that it has zero tolerance policy towards any form of child abuse. The Secretariat for Catholic Education adheres to S.L. 327.546 (Recruitment, Initial Training and Continuous Professional Development of Personnel and Protection of Minors in Compulsory Education Regulations 2016) in its recruitment process.

General

- 1.1 The Director for Curriculum and Standards invites applications for the post of part-time Play Therapist with the Secretariat for Catholic Education.
- 1.2 The selected candidate will be required to work in Church Schools on a **definite contract** of 10hrs weekly up to **30th June, 2022**.

Terms and conditions

- 2.1 The salary for the post of a Play Therapist is Salary Scale 10 which in 2021 is €21,267 x €407.67 - €23,713.02. A Play Therapist will progress to Salary Scale 8 (€24,091.00 x €486.83 - €27,011.98) upon completion of 2 years service in the grade, subject to satisfactory performance.
- 2.2 Provided that any applicant, who already has a minimum aggregate of 2 years satisfactory work experience in Play Therapy, shall be immediately placed in the relevant step of Salary Scale 8.
- 2.3 The post of Play Therapist is on part-time basis and the selected candidate may be required to work a maximum of six (6) day flexible working week with an average weekly working time of ten (10) hours on a time-table established by Secretariat for Catholic Education and is subject to the rules and regulations governing from time to time the Secretariat for Catholic Education and Church schools in general.

2.4 The appointment, is subject to a probationary period of one (1) year, and is subject to the rules governing from time to time the Secretariat for Catholic Education and Church schools in general.

2.5 The chosen candidate will be entitled to **all** benefits and salary on **pro-rata basis**.

Duties

3.1 The duties of a Play Therapist include:

- working with children aged three (3) to eleven (11) using play as a communication tool to understand their world and to help them deal with emotional distress and trauma;
- working with children and their families on a number of difficult life issues and experiences, including abuse and neglect, bereavement, family separations, learning difficulties, psychological problems and traumatic experiences and violence;
- accepting children through self-referral and referrals from other support professionals and school management teams in schools;
- making an assessment of children and their needs;
- determining a course of therapeutic treatment;
- providing therapeutic interventions in individual and group therapy sessions, normally on a weekly basis, to help children better cope with the issues they are facing;
- building a relationship of trust with children and their parents/carers;
- creating a safe and stable environment in which children are able to express themselves through play;
- reviewing therapeutic interventions on a regular basis;
- working in close collaboration with the Secretariats' Psycho-Social team, School Management Teams and professionals employed by the Secretariat for Catholic Education, Church Schools, Government entities and non-Governmental Agencies, thereby ensuring maximum utilisation of resources for the benefit of their clients;
- attending meetings, maintaining client records and producing reports on activities and progress;
- being accountable to the Service Manager for Student Services;
- performing any other duties according to the exigencies of the Secretariat for Catholic Education as directed by the Director for Curriculum and Standards;

- performing any other duties according to the exigencies of the Secretariat for Catholic Education as directed by the Delegate for Catholic Education.

3.2 A selected candidate is expected to perform these duties in various Church schools s/he is assigned to, according to exigencies.

Eligibility criteria

4.1 By the closing time and date of the call for applications, applicants must be:

(i) (a) citizens of Malta; **OR**

(b) citizen of other Member States of the European Union who are entitled to equal treatment to Maltese citizens in matters of employment by virtue of EU legislation and treaty provisions dealing with the free movement of workers; **OR**

(c) citizens of any other country who are entitled to equal treatment to Maltese citizens in matters related to employment by virtue of the application to that country of EU legislation and treaty provisions dealing with the free movement of workers; **OR**

(d) any other persons who are entitled to equal treatment to Maltese citizens in matters related to employment in terms of the law or the above-mentioned EU legislation and treaty provisions, on account of their family relationship with persons mentioned in paragraph (a), (b) or (c); **OR**

(e) third country nationals who have been granted long-term resident status in Malta under regulation 4 of the “Status of Long-Term Residents (Third Country Nationals) Regulations, 2006” or who have been granted a residence permit under regulation 18(3) thereof, together with family members of such third country nationals who have been granted a residence permit under the “Family Reunification Regulations, 2007”.

The advice of the Citizenship and Expatriates Department should be sought as necessary in the interpretation of the above provisions.

The appointment of candidates referred to at (b), (c) (d) and (e) above would necessitate the issue of an employment license in so far as this is required by the

Immigration Act and subsidiary legislation. The Jobsplus should be consulted as necessary on this issue.

- (ii) able to communicate in the Maltese and English languages; **and**
- (iii) in possession of a Diploma at MQF Level 5 with regards to programmes commencing as from October 2003) in Psychology, Education, Early Childhood Studies, Nursing, Social Work or a related area of study **and** a Post Graduate Diploma in Play Therapy at MQF level 7 (subject to a minimum of 60 ECTS/ECVET credits, or equivalent, with regards to programmes commencing as from October 2008), including a minimum of 200 hours of clinically supervised practicum in schools and ongoing CPD as requested for Play Therapy accreditation.

Qualifications at a level higher than that specified above will be accepted for eligibility purposes, provided they meet any specified subject requirements.

Moreover, candidates who have not yet formally obtained any of the above mentioned qualifications will still be considered, provided that they submit evidence that they have been approved for the award of the qualifications in question by the closing time and date of the call for applications.

- (iv) of good moral conduct; applicants must produce a Certificate of Conduct issued by the Police or other competent authority not earlier than one (1) month from the date of application.

4.2 Prospective applicants should note the requirement to produce MQRIC recognition statements in respect of their qualifications from the Qualifications and Recognition Information Centre (MQRIC), or other designated authorities, as applicable.

Submission of supporting documentation

5.1 Qualifications and experience claimed must be supported by certificates and/or testimonials, copies of which should be attached to the application. Diploma/Degree/Post-Graduate certificates or comparable qualifications must be accompanied by a transcript (Diploma/Certificate supplement) in English, showing the Degree obtained and the final classification.

5.2 Applicants should nominate two independent persons to act as referees. Applicants should ask the referees to write under confidential cover directly to Dr Ian Mifsud, Selection Board, Post of Part-Time Play Therapist, Secretariat for Catholic Education, Floriana FRN1472. Chosen referees should be related to applicants' work experience. Members of Parliament, Secretariat for Catholic Education employees and relatives of the applicants are not suitable to act as referees.

5.3 Original certificates and/or testimonials are to be invariably produced for verification at the interview.

Selection procedure

6.1 Eligible applicants will be assessed by a selection board to assess their suitability for the position.

6.2 The results will be published on the notice board of the Secretariat for Catholic Education within fifteen (15) working days of the interviews. A notification of the issue of the result will be sent to all interviewees.

6.3 Selection will be made according to the result list which will be valid for one (1) year.

6.4 A letter of application in own handwriting, accompanied by a CV, will be received in the first instance by the **Director for Curriculum and Standards** by not later than **noon of Monday 24th May 2021**. Applications by post should be sent by registered mail to the address below, in sufficient time to ensure delivery by the above-mentioned closing date. All applications will be acknowledged by the Director for Curriculum and Standards for Church Schools.

Mr Ian Mifsud
Director for Curriculum and Standards
Call: Part-Time Play Therapist
Secretariat for Educational Services
16 The Mall
Floriana FRN1472