

Centre Cook - Position Description

POSITION TITLE	Centre Cook
DEPARTMENT / INDUSTRY	Children's Services
AWARD / AGREEMENT	Children's Services Award 2010
CLASSIFICATION / GRADE	Support Worker Level 3

About YMCA South Australia

"We work together from a base of Christian values to provide opportunities for all people to grow in body mind and spirit" (our mission).

YMCA South Australia is a not-for-profit community organisation that has served the South Australian community for 175 years. With approximately 1,200 employees (and growing), we deliver programs and services across the state in settings including community recreation centres, swimming pools, health and fitness facilities, community centres, camps, early education and schools and youth services.

Our aim is to develop the whole person, helping all South Australians connect with a better life. Not only their physical fitness and capabilities, but also their sense of identity, purpose, hope and dignity; psychological health; resilience; social connectedness; lifelong learning; and their own contribution back into the community. All the elements that together constitute a full, healthy, productive, and satisfying life.

Our updated vision (FY27-30) is **"Whole people. Strong communities. South Australia flourishing."**

The Y Factor

YMCA South Australia's culture is characterised by what we call "the Y Factor" – **"genuine care for the whole person, for every person."** This ethos runs deep at the Y, being evident in our rich history of positive change around the world. This kind of authentic concern for others opens the opportunity for deeper and more profound impact – both on the community's wellbeing and our own as staff and volunteers. The YMCA is an environment in which everyone is to be recognised and appreciated as the unique and inherently valuable person they are. A place in which every person can "grow in body, mind and spirit".

For further information regarding YMCA South Australia, please visit www.sa.ymca.org.au.

Position Summary and Requirements

“As a member of staff at YMCA South Australia, this position requires you to work as part of a team committed to goals and mission that actively fosters community participation and involvement.”

The Centre Cook is a key member of the early learning and care team. Embedded within the centre, the Centre Cook will be highly visible to internal and external stakeholders. The Centre Cook takes responsibility for providing children aged 0-5 with a healthy and nutritional menu.

Areas of accountability	Key duties
Menu planning, preparation and review	• Safe preparation of food for children in the Centre including appropriate meals for children with allergies and specific dietary requirements. • Communicate with families, ELC Director and Educators about dietary needs of children and suitable alternatives. • Supporting the health and wellbeing of the children through the planning, and preparation of nutritious meals and snacks. • Plan and implement, in conjunction with Educators and children, the education of healthy eating and hands on cooking experience for children. • Work in consultation with key stakeholders on a rotational, seasonal menu that meets the nutritional needs of children aged 0 – 5 years old. • Ordering and purchasing supplies in consultation with ELC Director and other key stakeholders. • Plan and implement a minimum of 1- weekly cooking lessons involving the children.
Food safety & WHS	• Ensure all food safe practices are always adhered to ensure the safety of children. • Implement and maintain a local council food safety program in consultation with the ELC Director. Maintain all records and safety checks regarding good temperatures and monitoring records as part of the food safety plan requirements. • Actively support and participate in the local council kitchen / food safety audits. • Maintain a clean, safe and hygienic working environment and assist other staff with serving and clearing away after meals as required including but not limited to dishes. • Ensure the kitchen environment and equipment is maintained whilst striving for a high regard to cleanliness and safety. Reporting all issues to the ELC Director. • Report any incidents or hazards to the ELC Director.
Team participation	• Maintain professionalism and open communication with ELC Director, families, children and other team members. • Work with colleagues to collaborate and implement an educational program for children and continuously improve the standard of service.

	Be willing to attend professional development opportunities where appropriate, and staff meetings.
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Key Relationships

Reporting to:	ELC Director
Direct Reports:	N/A
Key Internal Relationships:	ELC Lead & Assistant Educators
Key External Relationships:	ELC families School Principal or delegate School Governing Council Patrons and key stakeholders of YMCA South Australia

Selection Criteria

Qualifications and Licences – Essential

- National Criminal History Records Check (NCHRC) (must be within 6 months of issue date).
- International police check (for applicants who have worked overseas in the last 5 years).
- DHS South Australian Employment Working with Children Check (WWCC).
- RRHAN-EC Masterclass – Responding to Risks of Harm, Abuse and Neglect – Education & Care.
- Food Handling certification.
- HLTAID009 Provide CPR.
- HLTAID012 Provide First Aid in an Education and Care setting.

Knowledge and Experience – Essential

- Previous experience in nutrition and dietary requirements of children.
- Previous experience working in a childcare setting.

Personal Attributes

- Demonstrates a commitment to the YMCA's mission and can role-model the "Y Factor" to others.
- Creates a fun and exciting work atmosphere that is hardworking, and goal orientated.

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- Demonstrated ability to work effectively both independently and as part of a team.
- Creates a welcoming atmosphere by engaging all people in a friendly and approachable manner.
- Works as part of a team and shows professionalism.
- Punctual in both attendance on shift and attendance at staff meetings.
- Promptly responds to customers' needs or concerns.
- Recognises and acts on the need for support and will accept and delegate responsibility when required.
- Models, demonstrates, and teaches positive values like caring, honesty, respect, and responsibility.
- Maintains high standards of presentation and personal grooming.

Safeguarding Children and Young People

For young people to be inspired, they must Feel Safe and Be Safe. As part of our Safeguarding Strategy at the Y, we have developed our Safeguarding Framework which aspires to ensure that all Children and Young People are safe and feel safe at the Y, in their families and in their communities.

Our Safeguarding Framework aims to develop:

- A safe culture nationally which empowers Children and Young People by promoting Children and Young Person focused leadership and governance.
- Safe operations to ensure Y People have the right policies, processes and practices to keep Children and Young People safe; and
- Safe environments at the Y and in communities which empower Children and Young People to thrive.

All Y People are integral to ensuring the implementation of our Safeguarding Framework across the Y. Y People in Direct Contact Roles will do this by:

- Upholding the rights of and always acting in the best interest of Children and Young People.
- Fulfilling your responsibilities under safeguarding legislation within your State, including declaring anything you become aware of through the course of your engagement with the Y which a reasonable person would consider could impede your suitability to have contact with Children and Young People.
- Supporting your colleagues, supervisors and/or direct reports to understand their responsibilities under safeguarding legislation.
- Participate in all required Safeguarding Children and Young People training for your role.
- Report any suspicions, concerns, allegations or disclosures of alleged child abuse or neglect in line with policies and procedures.
- Actively participate and contribute to continuous improvement of Safeguarding policies, procedures and practices.
- Maintaining appropriate vetting checks including, but not limited to, Working with Children Checks (or equivalent), National Police Check and International Police Check (as required).

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- Support the facilitation of safe operations to ensure Y people have the right policies, processes, and practices to keep children and young people safe.
- Speaking up about any safeguarding risks and/or concerns to ensure that you are supporting the continuous improvement of our spaces and safeguarding practice.
- Complete appropriately detailed risk assessments to address any vulnerabilities to children and young people as required.
- Empower all children and Young People to have a voice particularly in matters that affect them.
- Actively educate, promote and advocate the protection and safety to all children and young people, families and their communities.

Work Health and Safety

You will be required to:

- Familiarise yourself with all policies, procedures, and work practices of YMCA South Australia.
- Maintain currency of knowledge in relation to work health and safety.
- Maintain a working knowledge and understanding of your centre's Emergency Action Plan.
- Take responsibility for your own health and safety and the safety of the work environment.
- Ensure that your actions and omissions do not adversely affect the health and safety of other persons.
- Comply with all reasonable instructions in relation to work health and safety, including YMCA South Australia's policies and procedures as amended from time to time.
- Assist YMCA South Australia to provide an inclusive workplace by adhering to YMCA South Australia's Access and Inclusion Policy and applicable equal opportunity laws as amended from time to time.
- Inform your manager of any issues or concerns that may affect your ability to perform your role safely.
- Promote a positive safety culture by contributing to the health and safety consultation, communication, and action.
- Respond to plant and building emergencies and act as chief warden in an emergency evacuating the Centre if required.

Approval of Position Description

Date created or revised:	28 November 2023
Approved by:	Bijanka Rajic- Head of People and Safety

Acknowledgement of Incumbent

I acknowledge that I have read and understood the requirements of this position.

Name:	
Signature:	
Date:	