

ELC Assistant Educator - Position Description

POSITION TITLE	ELC Assistant Educator
DEPARTMENT / INDUSTRY	Children's Services
AWARD / AGREEMENT	Children's Services Award 2010
CLASSIFICATION / GRADE	Level 3 - Level 5 (Above Award)

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 an accredited social enterprise, non-profit, and locally governed leader in our sector, serving the South Australian community for more than 175 years. With more than 1,200 like-minded colleagues (and growing), we deliver programs and services across the state in settings including schools and early learning centres, community recreation centres, swimming pools, gymnastics centres, allied health services, health and fitness facilities, community centres, camps 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. We bring all of this together through an integrated social impact framework, so our efforts add up to something greater than any single program.

As a preferred employer, we invest in our people as much as we invest in our community.

Our 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.”

As an ELC Assistant Educator you will be responsible for providing quality care and educational experiences for children in the centre and provide the highest level of customer service for families. The ELC Assistant Educator will enjoy working in a team based working environment and have a genuine concern for and interest in the wellbeing and educational needs of children. You will assist in planning for and organising challenging and stimulating programs and activities for children aged 0-6 years.

The employee is responsible for his or her work, and works under direction to assist in the preparation, implementation and evaluation of a developmentally appropriate program for individual children or groups.

Areas of accountability	Key duties
Delivery of quality care and children's programs	• Under direction, quality care is provided to meet the individual and group needs of school age children in a respectful, supportive, equitable and inclusive manner; as required, each child is given individual attention and comfort. • Respect for and maintenance of confidentiality. • Perform other duties as required and comply with reasonable directions. • Refer families to the Director or delegate in a sensitive, supportive, and professional manner. • Implement positive behaviour management procedures. • Cope effectively in an emergency or stressful situation, until the responsibility may be deferred to the next most qualified employee. • Interact with children in a positive, sensitive and respectful manner. • Work with individual children with particular needs. • Meet the additional needs of children with complex health support needs, including personal hygiene and feeding, under direction. • Assist in the implementation and evaluation of developmentally appropriate programs for children reflecting the multi-cultural and social nature of the community. • Participation in the development of strong teamwork skills and a supportive team environment. • Support a culture of continuous learning in the workplace (including own workplace learning). • Participate in the regular written and verbal information about relevant aspects of service delivery for families, and how they can become involved, as delegated by the ELC Director.

	• Support compliance with the appropriate reporting procedures and requirements. • Assistance in the implementation of quality programs and routines. • Report observations of individual children or groups to qualified staff for program planning purposes. • Implement daily care routines under direction. • Uphold food safety regulations. • Under direction, support the inclusion of children with additional needs, including children with disabilities, children with complex health support needs. Support and assist Aboriginal children and children from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds. • Contribute towards the Service's Quality Improvement Plan. • Undertake other duties commensurate with salary
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Key Relationships

Reporting to:	ELC Director
Direct Reports:	N/A
Key Internal Relationships:	ELC Assistant Director ELC Lead Educators
Key External Relationships:	ELC Families School Principal or delegate School Governing Council Patrons and key stakeholders of YMCA South Australia
Safeguarding Category	Child-Facing Role

Selection Criteria

Qualifications and Licences – Essential

- AQF Certificate III in Children's Services or an equivalent qualification or, actively working towards attaining a suitable qualification and in the opinion of the employer, possesses sufficient knowledge or experience to perform the duties at this level.
- National Police Check (NPC) (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.
- HLTAID009 Provide CPR.
- HLTAID012 Provide First Aid in an Education and Care setting.
- Food Handling certification.

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- National Child Safety Training (Foundation and Advanced, as required by Dept. of Education)

Knowledge and Experience – Essential

- Foundational knowledge of responsibilities under Child Safe Environments compliance.
- Foundational knowledge of EYLF.
- Experience interacting with groups of children from 0-6 years of age.
- Foundational awareness of accountability and legal liability.
- Awareness of duty of care to children.

Behaviours and Capabilities – Essential

- Effective interpersonal skills.
- Effective verbal and written communication skills.

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.
- 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

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- 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).
- 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.

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- 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:	25/08/2026
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:	