

Child Psychologist Job Description

Duties and Responsibilities:

- Assess children for psychological or behavioral disorders
- Administer psychotherapy and psychometric tests in conducting diagnosis
- Provide suitable treatment plans that address various psychological challenges
- Engage child patients in counseling/therapy sessions
- Design and implement behavior modification programs as part of a psychological treatment plan
- Collaborate with parents of a child to oversee the recovery process of a child
- Develop preventative programs that mitigate risk of substance abuse and underage pregnancy
- Address problems such as bullying, depression, learning difficulties, and various other social/mental health condition in children by providing appropriate psychological intervention
- Identify abuse in children and take appropriate steps to curb the situation, as well as provide rehabilitation for the affected child
- Organize educational programs/outreach to enlighten teenagers on the outcome of high-risk behaviors and ways to adjust to them
- Proffer recommendations as to the nature of a child custody case, as well as determine the suitability of each parent to take sole custody of a child
- Supervise the training and activities of child psychologist interns and trainees
- Carry out research and surveys to develop more effective treatment strategy
- Liaise with other child health care experts professionals such as child protection workers, social workers, and pediatricians to facilitate and ensure the psychological progress of a child
- Participate in workshops and case conferences where developments in child psychology are discussed

- Monitor the treatment progress of a child and modify treatment plan when necessary to ensure development.

Child Psychologist Requirements – Skills, Knowledge, and Abilities

- Education and Training: To become a child psychologist, you are required to go for a 4-year undergraduate study in any course of study that allows for easy translation to advanced psychology study; usually a Bachelor's in psychology is recommended. Afterwards, you are expected to enroll for a Master's and Doctorate degree study in child psychology. You are also required to complete a year's internship and pass the Examination for Professional Practice in Psychology, which will qualify you to obtain license for practice. Other certifications for a subspecialty may be required.
- Communication Skill: Child psychologists are able to effectively interact with children and young people
- Empathic quality: Child psychologists are knowledgeable in addressing the emotional needs of children
- Problem-solving Skills: They possess the ability to reach conclusions from a diagnosis and proffer appropriate treatment.