



## POSITION DESCRIPTION – YOUTH WORKER NOOSA FLEXIBLE LEARNING CENTRE

For more information about this position, please contact Donna Pares, Head of Campus, Noosa Flexible Learning Centre.

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<b>Role Title</b>	Youth Worker
<b>Contract</b>	Continuing Full Time
<b>Start Date</b>	18 January 2022
<b>Applications Close</b>	4pm Wednesday 20 October
<b>Applications to</b>	<a href="mailto:MMRecruitment@ereafsn.edu.au">MMRecruitment@ereafsn.edu.au</a>
<b>Reports To</b>	Head of Campus at Noosa Flexible Learning Centre
<b>Location</b>	Noosa FLC under Marlene Moore Flexi Schools Network, located on Gubbi Gubbi/Kabi Kabi country.
<b>Award</b>	<i>CATHOLIC EMPLOYING AUTHORITIES SINGLE ENTERPRISE COLLECTIVE AGREEMENT DIOCESAN SCHOOLS QUEENSLANDS 2019-2023 – School Officer Award</i>

### FOUNDATION STATEMENT

Edmund Rice Education Australia (EREA) seeks to respond to the needs of young people disenfranchised and disengaged from education. They provide a place and an opportunity to re-engage in a suitable, flexible learning environment. Flexible Learning Centres (FLCs) seek to build honest and authentic relationships with young people, their families and communities, supporting and celebrating the uniqueness and dignity of each person. FLCs are guided by the vision of Edmund Rice about the empowering service of education, to achieve personal and community liberation through educational experiences that enable transformation.

### PRINCIPLES OF OPERATION (RESPECT, PARTICIPATION, SAFE AND LEGAL, HONESTY)

All employees of the Marlene Moore Flexi School Network adhere to the concepts of Common Ground and Operation by Principles – more information can be found on the





EREA website. All flexible learning centres operate under this framework and this is a significant point of difference from mainstream schooling. The principles establish a “common ground” among staff, young people and families where the means to resolve conflict, negotiate learning, recognise rights and responsibilities are modelled and explored, both within the group and individually.

## BACKGROUND

Marlene Moore (1945-1995) was a proud Wakka Wakka woman who worked on the staff of the first FLC at Logan in the 1980's. A member of the Stolen Generations who was taken from Gayndah to Cherbourg at the age of two along with her seven brothers and sisters, Marlene left at the age of 15 and worked as a domestic. She married and moved to Logan in 1975 where she raised six children. Marlene decided to return to study at Kangaroo Point TAFE College, where she completed studies in Welfare. She also went on to complete Early Childhood Studies through the Creche and Kindergarten Association. Marlene was appointed Indigenous Liaison Worker within Centre Education where she also worked as live-in caretaker. Her last few years were spent proudly working as the Indigenous Liaison Officer at Logan Hospital. Marlene passed away in 1995 aged 50.

Marlene Moore Flexi Schools Network (MMFSN), named in honour of Marlene, is an initiative of EREA. MMFSN offers a full-time and multiyear secondary education and social inclusion program for disenfranchised young people across four school campuses: Hemmant, Deception Bay, Noosa, and Gympie. Young people may express a broad range of complex education and social needs and MMFSN FLCs respond with a variety of flexible and innovative social inclusion and learning experiences.

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MMFSN provides young people with a varied and holistic set of learning experiences supporting them to identify and pursue an individual transition to adulthood, employment, further education and training and social connectedness.

Young people who attend include Indigenous and non-Indigenous young people who are disengaged from mainstream education for a range of reasons and include:

- ❖ Those who have had contact with the juvenile justice system;
- ❖ Those in the care of the Office of Children and Families;



- ❖ Those with a history of trauma;
- ❖ Those with a history of extended periods of unexplained absences;
- ❖ Those who are highly mobile;
- ❖ Those with mental illness or at risk of engaging in self-harming behaviours or substance abuse;
- ❖ Those who have been excluded or repeatedly suspended from school;
- ❖ Those who are homeless;
- ❖ Those who are young parents;
- ❖ Those with a generational history of early school leaving;
- ❖ Those with a generational history of unemployment.

See [www.ereafsn.edu.au](http://www.ereafsn.edu.au) for further information

## PRIMARY ROLE

The Youth Worker reports to the Head of Campus and Principal, Marlene Moore Flexi Schools Network. They have responsibility to support engagement, wellbeing and social inclusion responses of the campus. They provide wellbeing support to the young people of the campus including engagement and program activities. They work collaboratively and are supported by Teachers, Youth/Social Workers and the Head of Campus.

## SKILLS, KNOWLEDGE AND EXPERIENCE

- ❖ Demonstrated skills and knowledge in working with disengaged young people, including the use of trauma-informed practice
- ❖ Demonstrated capacity to work effectively as a member of a multidisciplinary team, to work collaboratively and establish and maintain professional relationships with all stakeholders
- ❖ Experience of working in an alternative education setting is desirable

## DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

Typical duties and responsibilities include but are not restricted to:

### 1. Develop and coordinate external support networks

- Liaise and develop service referral and provision with government and non-government agencies at appropriate levels to support health, mental health and wellbeing needs of young people.
- Support young people to access support services e.g., counselling, health support, community activities.



- Work collaboratively with the team to support/develop cultural links, community and family connections which support the engagement and connection of young people to learning and the wider community.
- 2. Participate in program provision to ensure wellbeing in an inclusive learning environment**
- Collaborate with the team to support a socially inclusive program that responds to the physical, intellectual, social, spiritual and cultural needs of young people.
  - Participate in the daily routines and activities of the FLC e.g., morning meetings, lunch, electives, outings, camps, staff briefings
  - Undertake a direct program provision role with a focus on health, wellbeing and engagement within the FLC, particularly through the areas of outdoor adventure-based learning.
  - In collaboration with other staff develop and provide a range of programs/activities during the school holidays to maintain connections for young people.
  - Take a key role in following up with non-attendance including phone calls, home visits.
- 3. Team participation/multidisciplinary practice**
- Participate in professional supervision.
  - Participate in regular whole team reflective practice sessions including daily staff debrief.
- 4. Support child protection procedures according to policy**  
In consultation with the Head of Campus:
- Provide a support service to young people dealing with issues of child protection.
  - Provide a referral point for young people to appropriate support services as indicated.
- 5. Administrative Responsibilities**
- Maintain appropriate records and prepare reports as required.
  - Maintain Young People records on the database.
  - Support the development of personal learning plans with Young People.
- 6. Lead and support professional practice which is culturally appropriate**
- Work collaboratively with the team to ensure program provision is culturally appropriate.
  - Sourcing and provision of activities which support cultural links and community engagement.



**Marlene Moore**

Flexi Schools Network

- Work collaboratively with the team to develop community and family connections which support the engagement and connection of young people to learning and the wider community.
- 7. Carries out duties and tasks that may be reasonably assigned by the Head of Campus or Principal from time to time.**

## APPLICATION PROCESS

Applications are to be submitted via email to [MMRecruitment@ereafsn.edu.au](mailto:MMRecruitment@ereafsn.edu.au) by 4pm, Wednesday 20 October. To apply for this role please provide the following documents:

- ❖ A cover letter, addressed to Matt Hawkins, Principal Marlene Moore Flexi School Network, outlining relevant skills, knowledge and experience, and reasons for wishing to apply for the position.
- ❖ Current resume outlining previous experience and skills:
  - Please include contact details of two referees, one of whom is from current or most recent place of employment.
- ❖ A scan of your current blue card.

Shortlisted applicants will be notified by phone or email.

For further information, please contact Donna Pares on 0409 987 384 or at [Donna.Pares@ereafsn.edu.au](mailto:Donna.Pares@ereafsn.edu.au).

*Our organisation supports the rights of children and young people and is committed to providing a safe and supportive environment directed at ensuring their safety and wellbeing. All applicants for these positions will be subject to EREA screening procedures.*

***First Nations Peoples are encouraged to apply.***

