GOVERNMENT OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA

Working with Children Check

Factsheet CAT10
Categories of child-related work
10: a counselling or other support service

This factsheet has been designed specifically for work undertaken in connection with category 10 and is intended as a guide only. Examples are not intended to be exhaustive and do not include all circumstances or variations based on the specific role and associated responsibilities. If you require assistance translating or interpreting the information in this factsheet, please call the Translating and Interpreting Service (TIS National) on 131 450.

A counselling or other support service refers to therapeutic services designed to help people achieve a remedy or treatment for a problem of a personal, emotional or psychological nature.

Roles considered to be in child-related work

Some examples of roles considered to be in child-related work are listed below. Please note that in all cases, for a role to be considered to be in child-related work, the **usual duties** of that role must involve, or be likely to involve, **contact** with a **child**. The examples provided may also be subject to exemptions.

Roles include:

- counsellors, psychotherapists, and similar professionals who treat children's emotional and psychological needs
- social workers or psychologists providing family counselling or support services that involve children
- speech pathologists and occupational therapists working with children who as part of their services provide counselling to assist children to manage their health and wellbeing
- **individuals** providing counselling services for children with illnesses
- individuals providing telephone or online counselling to children
- individuals who provide support to children navigating the justice system
- professionals providing counselling and other support services to children, who have been admitted to adult mental health wards where children are not ordinarily patients.

Please note that administration or reception roles are generally not considered to be in scope

under this category. If the role includes engaging children in activities or looking after children whilst their families undertake a session, other categories of child-related work may apply.

Exemptions

The following exemptions apply to this category:

- child **volunteers** under 18 years of age
- unpaid **students** on placement under 18 years of age
- **short-term visitors** to Western Australia (WA)
- a **parent** volunteering in the same activity in which their child participates, or ordinarily participates, refer to Factsheet CRW03: Exemptions, The parent volunteer exemption.
- police officers performing functions as a member of the WA Police
- one-off national events or national tours, refer to Factsheet CRW02: Exemptions, One-off national events and national tours.

Definitions of **bold** terms can be found in the Working with Children Check glossary at www.workingwithchildren.wa.gov.au