



## **VHA School Counsellor: Job Description**

A school counsellor provides short-term counselling and educational programs to students at VHA. The role comprises four major areas: counselling, consultation, coordination, and psychoeducation. This individual works with administration, teachers, parents, students, and other community agencies to support the development and well-being of students.

### **Responsibilities:**

- Responsible for short-term counselling of individual students in regard to a range of issues (academic concerns, diverse learning styles, social-emotional concerns, etc.).
- Provide crisis counselling/intervention and be available in the event of a crisis situation.
- Provide preventative, developmental, remedial and intervention services and programs and facilitate referrals to community resources and support services.
- Offer counselling, school-based consultation, coordination and education.
- Facilitate lunchtime groups focusing on social skill acquisition, relationship building, etc. according to the needs of the student body.
- Consult and plan collaboratively with students, educators, administration in planning goals and effective strategies to promote the education, social, emotional development of students.
- Collaborative with staff and families to implement the Responsive Classroom Program
- Facilitate informational workshops for parents and caregivers.
- Develop and facilitate professional development opportunities for staff around SEL, self-regulation, classroom management, and positive behaviour supports.
- As a member of the school-based Special Education team, assist in the access and co-ordination of school services and other community services for students and families.
- Assist in the coordination of school services, community services, and referrals.

### **Qualifications:**

- A master's degree in counselling psychology or a related discipline with a focus in counselling.
- A registered clinical counsellor in good standing, or eligibility for registration with the BCACC or CCPA would be an asset.
- A combination of qualifications and experience will also be considered.
- Experience working with children grades preschool – grade 8 would be an asset.
- Demonstrated experience counselling in the school setting would be an asset
- A Bachelor of Education and teaching experience or school-based experienced would be an asset.
- Knowledge about Jewish values, cultures, and traditions would be an asset.

- Supports the mission, vision, and values of the school.
- Proven ability to facilitate group counselling sessions with children.
- Excellent communication skills – both verbal and written.
- Strong interpersonal skills.
- Excellent organizational skills.
- At the time of application, you must be legally permitted to work in Canada.

### **Why work at VHA:**

- VHA staff enjoy working in a warm, welcoming, and collegial environment.
- Professional development is supported, both in and of school, through conference attendance and course and/or workshop participation
- We provide continuous support and mentorship for new staff.
- We encourage teachers to develop new courses, clubs, teams, and other student opportunities.
- We are learning together to teach the new curriculum as we place an emphasis on being at the forefront of change.
- We have a motivated and engaged staff with an administration that is committed to creating a safe, positive work and social work environment.
- We offer a comprehensive compensation package.
- To live in Vancouver, one of the most beautiful and livable cities in the world.

Vancouver Hebrew Academy is Torah observant community Jewish school, preschool through grade 8. Our mission is to teach Torah Judaism and values through a strong and balanced curriculum of Jewish and General studies. We believe that Torah education inspires the pursuit of academic excellence and provides children with the foundation skills to fortify their Jewish identity and ignite in them a passion for a lifetime of exploring their Jewish heritage and the world. VHA is for every Jewish family, regardless of level of observance or synagogue affiliation. We strive to make everyone part of the VHA family.

We are looking for a dedicated, dynamic, compassionate, innovative, and inspiring counsellor to join our school family. This is a 0.6 FTE position, with potential to increase as the school grows. Hours and days are flexible. The successful candidate will have the ability to lead and collaborate with students, parents, and staff. VHA is a close-knit school with approximately 80 students and 15 staff members. We are looking for a counsellor who will thrive in a relational setting and work closely with our leadership team to support the emotional health of all in our community.