

Sarah Vaughan

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Statement addressing the selection criteria

Health Promotion Coordinator

Experience in the community sector, education, training and/or health related area

My teaching and training skills have been developed over 15 years of secondary science teaching and my persuasive skills were further developed over 3 years as a pharmaceutical sales representative. I have been able to get my students engaged in the subject and wanting to learn. As a result, my classes achieved very good results.

- Taught human biology at pre-tertiary level to year 11 and 12 students at Seymour College for the past three years. Last year 17 of the 25 students in my class achieved greater than 67% in their end-of-year results.

Ability to develop training materials, surveys and evaluations

For all courses and for all classes, I had to produce training materials that were attractive, clear and easy to understand. These were sometimes slide presentations, sometimes edited compilations of podcasts, sometimes large visual representations and sometimes tactile, working models. The attractiveness of training resources is important to keeping students engaged.

Evaluations are an essential part of the education system. They covered not only the progress made by individual students but also the effectiveness of my teaching. I did not carry out formal surveys but I did ask students from time to time how they found a particular lesson or series of lessons.

Helped students design surveys for Year 11 Psychology in 2010.

Ability to write and present reports

Writing and presenting reports and other information sessions has been very much an essential part of my professional career. I wrote and presented sales reports to management when working as a pharmaceutical sales rep in north Queensland and I am confident that I will be able to write and present reports on the effectiveness of my performance in the role of Health Promotion Coordinator to the Board and management of Arthritis ACT.

Experience in giving presentations to members of the community and health professionals

Gave presentations to general practitioners, pharmacists and other health professionals as pharmaceutical sales rep. The effectiveness of these presentations can be assessed by the fact that I almost doubled sales over the three years I was in that position.

Made presentations to parents, the Parents and Friends Association and colleagues on aspects of the science curriculum at Seymour College. These presentations were well received.

Ability to build relationships with health professionals and government and non-government organisations

My ability to build and maintain good professional relationships with health professionals has been demonstrated by my success as pharmaceutical sales rep in Queensland. I have the ability to build and maintain similar professional relationships with government and non-government organisations.

Capacity to work with and train volunteers to deliver health promotion programs

My ability to train and work with volunteers has been developed through my taking part in, and leading adventure education programs at Nightcliff High School and instructing the volunteer parent help in program procedures and in the accident response plan.

Over the seven years I was at the school, I went on five 3-day adventure education programs, two of them as leader. These programs involved rock climbing, abseiling and canoeing.

On one program, a student was slightly injured, suffering a sprained ankle. With a parent helper, I implemented the accident response plan; the student was given first aid and evacuated safely. The plan worked smoothly and the parent helper felt confident throughout the action because of the prior training that I had given him.

Ability to manage multiple tasks and competing priorities

With a husband in the Army and often required to travel, I have raised three children and handled a full teaching load. As a result, I have developed the skills to manage multiple tasks and competing priorities.

Desirable

Tertiary Qualification in either Education or a Health related area

Bachelor of Science, University of New England, 1980

Diploma in Education, Armidale College of Advanced Education, 1981

First Aid Qualification or willing to obtain

I obtained a first aid qualification when teaching in Darwin but allowed it to lapse when I was working in Queensland. I am very willing to redo the training and regain those skills.

Own transport required to attend various locations

Own and drive a Toyota Prius. Clean driving record.

Knowledge of the health/medical industry

My knowledge of the health/medical industry is more or less restricted to what I learnt as a pharmaceutical sales rep. However, I have taught human biology at senior level and I am a quick learner. With these skills and experience, I am confident that I will gain sufficient working knowledge to quickly become effective in the role.