



APS Psychologist

Side by Side Psychology
Kate French, Fellow APS



Explanation of Services

Welcome. The following is an explanation of my services. If you have any questions, please call The Mildura Kids Clinic/Better Health Mildura reception on 03 50215616.

Treating Therapist: Clinical Psychologist

As a Clinical Psychologist I have 6 years of university training and am fully registered by the Australian Psychologist's Registration Board, and a Member of the Australian Psychological Society and their Clinical College.

I regularly undertake professional development, provide supervision and also take part in peer supervision with other experienced psychologists and therapists. My area of expertise is in the treatment of mental health disorders and interpersonal difficulties with a particular focus on Autism Spectrum Conditions, mainly Autism and Asperger's Syndrome.

The types of work I typically do with families, children and young people include: parenting and behavioural intervention, emotion management, skill development (anger/anxiety), social skill development, diagnostic assessments and cognitive assessments. This occurs mostly in the clinic setting although school visits and home visits can occur by negotiation.

Diagnostic assessments to determine whether Autism is present can occur, usually following a referral from your Paediatrician. The assessment sessions are charged as a package with fees payable at session and at completion of the report. Please see the **Assessments-Child or Adult** flyer for further information.

Consent / Release Form

You need to consent to the provision of a psychological service for yourself or on the behalf of your child. Please read and complete the consent and release forms, preferably before your appointment time.

- The Registration Form & Consent for Psychological Service provides your details and permission for you or your child to be assessed and or undergo therapy. If you have any questions about the form we can complete it during the initial interview.



The Permission to Consult / Release Information is needed in the event that you or your child's case requires liaison with any third party. Written consent for such liaison is essential. This will be discussed with you if third party liaison (such as with a school, doctor, or other person) is indicated.

Collection of Information

As part of providing a psychological service to you or your child, I will collect and record personal information that is relevant to you or your child's current situation. This information will be a necessary part of the psychological assessment or treatment. You may view and/or have a copy of the non-copyrighted material recorded in you or your child's file upon written request. If the child is an adolescent and is being seen independently, they may view and/or have a copy of the non-copyrighted material recorded in their file upon written request.

Confidentiality

All personal information gathered during the provision of the psychological service will remain confidential and secure except when:

1. It is subpoenaed by a court of law, or
2. Failure to disclose the information would place the child or another person at risk of harm; or
3. Your prior written consent has been obtained to provide or receive information from another professional or agency, such as your child's school, GP, paediatrician, legal representative, or relevant government department. (Please fill in the Permission to Consult / Release Information).

Appointments

Appointments must be made in advance. A standard consultation is just over 50 minutes (with 10 minutes case-noting time). It is important that you arrive on time for your appointment. Late arrival will result in reduced time for your session, however, the full session fee will still be charged. If you are present for less than session time a reduced rebate (if eligible) will also apply.

Cancellation Policy

Cancelling an appointment may have a cancellation fee attached if a cancelled appointment **cannot be filled**. Administration staff make every attempt to fill these appointments.

If 0-24 hours notice is given the full session fee will be charged

If between 24 and 48 hours notice is given, 50% of the session fee will be charged

The fees are to discourage late cancellations or 'no shows' as much as is possible. I wish to service my families as best I can and when I have missed appointments I feel this is a disservice to other families who are waiting for an appointment time. I completely understand that emergencies and sickness occur, however as much notice as possible, is hugely appreciated.



An opportunity to do a phone call or video-call session may be offered in lieu of your attendance at the office, if circumstances allow it (with the client or caregiver), so that the session can be utilised. Medicare rebates are generally unavailable for this type of appointment.

Text message reminders will be sent three days prior to your appointment, however attendance to your booked time is your responsibility. No funding bodies are able to pay late cancellation/did not attend fees and rebates are not available if you do not attend.

Cost of Service

The recommended fee, set by The Australian Psychological Society, for a standard 50 minute consultation with a clinical psychologist is \$251.00. However a psychologist is able to alter this fee to their own discretion. Individual and family sessions are \$200 from July 1 2019. You or your child may be eligible for rebates depending upon the referral you have been provided. This substantially reduces the overall cost of the session.

 I am a registered Clinical Psychologist under Medicare. Adults and children referred under a GP Mental Health Care Plan, or from a Psychiatrist and may receive up to 10 sessions per year rebated by Medicare. Under the rules of Medicare you pay the full fee at the time of consultation and then take your receipt to a Medicare office to receive your rebate. Although 10 sessions per year attract a rebate, it is more likely that sessions in addition to this number will be required for effective treatment of most mental health conditions and planning for this is recommended.

Under the 'Helping Children with Autism' initiative assessment and therapy for Pervasive Developmental Disorders, including Autism Spectrum Disorders attract a Medicare rebate for a number of sessions.

Please note:

1. Payment is required at time of consultation.
2. Written reports cannot be released until the appropriate fee has been paid in full.
3. A tax invoice will be issued for all charged services. A psychological consultation does not attract GST.

Updated: November 2018