Paediatric Nursing

GRADUATE DIPLOMA IN NURSING  
COURSE CODE: 1GD010  
1 year full-time; 2 years part time  
Mixed mode (external with intensives in some units)  
Fees: Commonwealth Grant Supported  
Admission is processed by SATAC GradStart www.satac.edu.au

ABOUT THE STREAM

The Paediatrics stream within the Graduate Diploma in Nursing provides graduates with comprehensive specialist nursing knowledge to provide care to infants, children and adolescents. Graduates will understand the special needs of children with reference to their development and care, and be qualified to treat ill health and alleviate symptoms and diseases of children. Graduates will be well prepared to move on to further study and into research.

Some units in this stream are offered through cross-institutional enrolment with Queensland University of Technology (QUT) (see unit descriptions over).

COURSE OUTLINE

The course focuses on cultural awareness in the health practice context, and builds on existing knowledge and understanding of nursing practice, assessment and evidence-based practice. In the increasingly complex and challenging world of health practice, this course provides the opportunity for professionals to extend clinical development and intellectual engagement, and build capacity in critical analysis and reflection, in nursing practice and education.

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

Students must have current registration with the Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency to practise as a Registered Nurse and be employed in a paediatric setting a minimum of 0.63FTE. Students not in the NT employed model are required to arrange their own clinical practice in consultation with the course coordinator.
## UNIT OUTLINES

### INFORMING PRACTICE WITH EVIDENCE (HEA402)
Contemporary professionals work in environments requiring practice grounded in quality evidence. This unit develops skills and knowledge to reflect on critically and integrate evidence into practice. You will explore types of evidence, evaluate the standard of evidence and demonstrate its application to inform professional interventions, treatments, and decision-making processes. You will review research literature, professional guidelines and standards and critique how this information applies to your own practice.

### CULTURE IN PRACTICE (HEA401)
This unit assists you to increase your awareness of, and ability to critique, the construct of culture within yourself, your profession and the communities in which you work. You will be encouraged to explore your own culturally embedded values, beliefs, and practices. You will be expected to develop an understanding of how culture impacts the way we work and how we can work more appropriately and effectively across cultures.

### CHILD & FAMILY HEALTH KNOWLEDGE & PRACTICE 1 (HEA441)
This unit begins with an overview of primary health care as the foundation for effective care and support to children and their families. It examines contemporary evidence, practice and knowledge of the early years on long-term health and well-being. The physical and cognitive aspects of growth and development of the child are described within the context of family. The nutritional requirements for normal growth are reviewed and the role of the child and family health practitioner in supporting healthy nutrition choices is introduced. The unit investigates biological influences on growth and development including factors that affect this such as malnutrition, anaemia and common childhood illness, particularly those experienced in the tropical and desert areas of Australia.

### PHARMACOLOGY FOR HEALTH PROFESSIONALS (SNP402)
This unit assists you to acquire a more thorough understanding of the fundamental scientific principles of pharmacology that underpin a wide range of disease states and to apply pharmacological knowledge in your own specialty area of practice. You will review basic principles of pharmacology and pharmacotherapy to increase your understanding of the effects of drugs on human physiological and pathophysiological processes. This knowledge will be applied to drugs currently being used for the treatment of clinical illness, to deepen understanding of the processes involved with a specific focus on your client population.

### PRINCIPLES OF PAEDIATRIC, CHILD AND YOUTH HEALTH NURSING (NSN003) (QUT)
This unit introduces issues facing nursing when providing care for children and families in the acute and community service environment. The unit presents an overview of the contemporary health problems faced by the Australian child and family and explores nursing interventions that enhance adaptation and health.

### ACUTE PAEDIATRIC NURSING (NSN004) (QUT)
This unit is designed to provide Registered Nurses with advanced knowledge and skills to enable you to provide safe and competent care to children experiencing acute paediatric illness. The unit focuses on acute health problems in children, employing clinical assessment, problem solving and critical thinking skills. Following completion of this unit you will be able to demonstrate knowledge and skills in the nursing management of acute and chronic health problems within paediatric clinical practice.

### SPECIALISATION IN PAEDIATRIC, CHILD AND YOUTH HEALTH NURSING (NSN006) (QUT)
This unit provides clinical knowledge and understanding in a selected area of paediatric or child and youth health subspecialty. The unit is based on a learning contract that will include both theoretical and clinical learning activities and assessment.

### ELECTIVE
A 10 credit point unit from level 400-500 offered by the University. You are encouraged to select electives that will enhance our practice, for example research or public health. Some short courses offered by external providers may be incorporated into an elective in negotiation with your course coordinator.

### FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT
For further information about the course contact the School of Health Academic Liaison Unit
T. 08 8946 7357
E. alu@cdu.edu.au

For enrolment procedures, closing dates and other administrative issues please contact Student Services and ask for a member of the Higher Education Enrolment Team
T. 1800 061 963
E. enrolmenthelp@cdu.edu.au
W. [www.cdu.edu.au](http://www.cdu.edu.au)