



JOHN BLYTHE CHILD PSYCHOLOGY

EXPLANATION OF SERVICES (01/07/2023 – 30/06/2024)

Welcome to John Blythe Child Psychology (JBCP), a child and adolescent psychology service located in the Blacktown, Macarthur, Nepean, and Sutherland areas. The team at JBCP are committed to providing the latest evidence-based assessments, diagnoses, and treatments for the full range of developmental challenges that children and young people sometimes face. Following is an explanation of our services. If at any stage, you have questions or comments related to our service please call our offices on (02) 9622 9610.

TREATING CLINICIANS

JBCP employs a clinical team who work with clients across the lifespan and have a special interest in assessment, diagnosis, and treatment of a variety of physiological concerns in children and adolescents. Our team is comprised of Psychologists, Mental Health Practitioners and Social Workers. All Psychologists have a minimum of 4 years tertiary education and are registered by the Psychology Board of Australia (PBA) under the Health Practitioner Regulation National Law Act 2009.

Provisional Psychologists are provisionally registered by the PBA and undertake assessment and treatment of clients under the direct training and supervision of senior Psychologists. Mental Health Practitioners and Social Workers have a minimum of 3 years university training and may assist with intervention in the clinic and community support (i.e., home and school) under the supervision of senior staff. Provisional Psychologists, Mental Health Practitioners and Social Workers undertake intensive training as part of the JBCP Academy.

JBCP is a training clinic for Provisional Psychologists from local universities who are completing their fifth or sixth year of training. Occasionally, we may ask your permission for these Provisional Psychologists to observe or assist with aspects of assessment and treatment as part of their university placement.

CONSENT / RELEASE FORM

You need to consent to the provision of a psychological service on behalf of your child / yourself. Please complete the consent and release form included in this mailing. The form has three sections:

- The Consent for Psychological Service provides your permission for your child / adolescent to be assessed and or treated by a JBCP psychologist. This form must be signed and returned to our office prior to commencing your child's first appointment. If you have any questions about the form, we can complete it during the initial parent interview.
- The Permission to Consult / Release Information is needed if your child's case requires liaison with any third party. Written consent for such liaison is essential (except for referrers). The psychologist will discuss this portion of the form with you and advise if third party liaison (such as with a school, doctor, or other party) is indicated. If the client is an adolescent, their consent for assessment / treatment is also desired.
- John Blythe Child Psychology is engaged in ongoing research into child development and behaviour. We do not use ANY private or identifying case information in research projects, only anonymous data such as age, gender, and test scores. Our research is designed to improve assessment, diagnosis and treatment options for children and adolescents. You have the option to provide consent for involvement in research at the bottom of the consent form.

The consent of all legal guardians is strongly desirable and preferable. For this reason, it is important that your consulting clinician is made aware of any custody or legal arrangements associated with your child. Please bring along to the initial appointment documentation of any custody arrangements. If there are any current or impending legal disputes in relation to the custody of the child, it is the responsibility of the parent/guardian in attendance to inform the clinician. Services may be denied if such information is withheld. Further, should the non-attending guardian require information about attendance, the non-attending guardian will be provided information regarding the child's attendance and any information that may be in the child's best interest to share, unless legal documentation is provided that prevents us from sharing information.

Should a non-attending guardian require further information, they may make an appointment to discuss the care of your child. Such appointments will not involve any communication about the other guardian. The focus will be on the care provided to your child. No phone calls unless pre-arranged will be accepted.



A session summary can be requested by a legal guardian and supplied via email to both the attending and non-attending legal guardian. This summary will consist of a brief recount of what was undertaken during the session and will be sent during your child's session. Request for summaries can be made at the front office or emailing the clinician directly.

If we feel any of the points outlined in this confirmation pack compromise the treatment of the child, or the welfare of the clinician, we have the right to discharge the family from treatment at JBCP and provide documentation regarding alternate services.

COLLECTION OF INFORMATION

As part of providing a psychological service to your child / adolescent, John Blythe Child Psychology will collect and record personal information that is relevant to your child's current situation. This information will be a necessary part of the psychological assessment or treatment. In line with the National Privacy Principles, you may view the non-copyrighted material recorded in your child's file upon written request. Please note that if the client is an adolescent, JBCP will require their consent before material is viewed by a parent/guardian. Adolescent clients who are seen independently may also view 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 as required by law
3. On rare occasions to assist in the location of a missing person; or
4. 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

When attending the initial parent interview, please do not bring the child or young person as you need the freedom to discuss all your concerns openly and honestly without the child being present.

Appointments must be made in advance. A standard consultation is 50-minutes. 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.

Cancellation and Missed Appointment Policy

- Failing to attend an appointment or cancelling an appointment within 48 hours of the scheduled appointment may result in a full session fee being charged (unless extenuating circumstances apply) – this fee will be due and payable prior to any further appointments being scheduled. John Blythe Child Psychology's Cancellation Policy complies with all applicable laws (e.g., the Australian Consumer Law) and is consistent with the NDIS Price Guide.
- Any client accessing funding through 3rd parties, will be billed personally for any cancellation fees as corporate entities will not fund such charges.
- Clients who cancel or miss 2 consecutive or a total of 3 visits during a course of treatment over 6 months may be removed from our current schedule and placed on a waiting list for further treatment. Cancellation fees will be charged and must be paid in full prior to any further appointments being scheduled.

CUSTOMER SERVICE / RESPECT POLICY

JBCP is committed to a high level of customer service and will ensure respect is shown to all clientele. It is an expectation that clients engage in a polite and courteous manner with staff. John Blythe Child Psychology **DOES NOT** tolerate disrespect, rudeness, or aggressive behaviour to **ANY** staff members. If this is observed by any client, parent/guardian or additional party, you will be asked to leave. Incidents of disrespect may result in a warning letter or discontinuation of services.



COST OF SERVICE & SCHEDULE OF FEES (Effective 01/07/2023 – 30/06/2024)

The recommended fee, set by The Australian Psychological Society (APS), for a standard consultation with a clinical psychologist is \$300.00 per 46-60 minute session. At JBCP we reduce this fee for local private paying families to assist them in accessing our service. Third parties such as Government Departments, Educational Institutions, Insurance companies, etc., are billed at the APS recommended fee. Separate fees also exist for attendance at legal briefings or court proceedings.

John Blythe Child Psychology is a registered service provider under Medicare. Children and/or their parents referred to a psychologist under a GP Mental Health Plan, or by a paediatrician or psychiatrist, may receive up to 10 treatment sessions per year subsidised by Medicare. Medicare referrals must be initiated by your doctor or Paediatrician/Paediatric Psychiatrist.

Please note:

1. No credit will be given. Full payment is expected at the time of consultation or assessment. Payments may be made by EFTPOS, Visa, or Mastercard. No Amex. Cash is accepted at select clinic locations only, please inquire prior to attendance.
2. Accounts must be up to date and paid in full before JBCP will release any report, update, or file.
3. No rebates will be applied to cancellation charges.
4. Responsibility of payment lies with those who have parental responsibility for the child.
5. Where an account remains unpaid for greater than 30 days, referral to debt collection services may be required.

Formal Assessment/ Report Quotes will be provided upon request.

JBCP ABN 18 648 305 929	Private Fee Payable
Clinical Child Psychologist (50 minute session)*	\$245.00
Registered Child Psychologist (50 minute session)*	\$200.00
Provisional Child Psychologist (50 minute session)	\$125.00
Mental Health Social Worker (50 minute session)*	\$190.00
Mental Health Practitioner (50 minute session)	\$90.00
Request for client file notes / subpoena file requests	\$200 administration fee + \$0.25 per page over first 100 pages.

* Medicare Rebate available with appropriate referral from GP or Paediatrician.