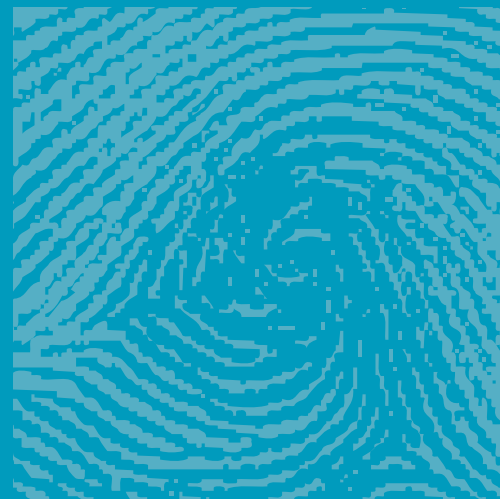


Snapshot

Kim Sanderson
Dental Therapy graduate



What do I do?

As a dental therapist my role is extremely diverse. I see patients and do fillings, nerve treatments, extractions, fluoride treatments and oral health promotion. I also do administrative work. I speak with school staff and parents and I go into the classroom to talk to children about their oral health.

What was my career path?

I did the Dental Therapy course at the University of Melbourne over two years—the Diploma of Oral Health Therapy. I had a year off after I finished Year 12; during that time I started a Dental Assisting traineeship but was then accepted into the Dental Therapy course.

What do I like most about my job?

I get to work with lots of different staff and members of the public in lots of different settings. I get amazing job satisfaction from working in a high needs area. I know that what I am doing is a much needed service. Also, I really like the flexible hours and working arrangements that a career in dental therapy provides.

What skills and characteristics do I need in my job?

Communication skills are really important because in this role you're working with people. You definitely need to be able to relate to patients. You need good motor skills for the technical things we do like shaping fillings, and you need to be organised and have good time management skills.

Want more information?

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