

SHAMEESHIKA KUHANDRAN

Secondary & Special Needs Educator | Psychology & Inclusive Education | Indigenous Community Teaching

+60-199-643-485 • kshamee25@gmail.com • linkedin.com/in/shameeshika-kuhandran-a083791b1 • Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia (Available to relocate anywhere in Australia)

PROFESSIONAL SUMMARY

Dedicated educator and psychology professional with 5+ years of classroom teaching experience in secondary, international, and special education settings across Malaysia and Sri Lanka. Holds an MSc in Psychology (Liverpool John Moores University, UK, completing May 2026) and a BSc (Hons) in Psychology (Cardiff Metropolitan University, UK) — bringing specialist subject expertise in Psychology, Social Science, and Inclusive Education directly to the classroom. Currently teaching indigenous Orang Asli students at Dignity for Children Foundation, Malaysia, and delivering community health education to underprivileged and indigenous communities through Roots & Shoots Malaysia. Specialises in neurodevelopmental support (ASD, ADHD), differentiated instruction, and culturally responsive pedagogy. Certified in Clinical Care for Autistic Adults (Harvard Medical School). Experienced delivering Cambridge and IGCSE curricula across diverse, multicultural classrooms. Seeking to relocate to Australia and committed to making a genuine difference in community-facing, inclusive education. Eligible for visa sponsorship; committed to obtaining Australian teacher registration upon commencement.

TEACHING & PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Dignity for Children Foundation

Lower Middle Secondary Teacher – English (Years 7–9, Contract)

Jan 2026 – Present
Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

- Delivers English language and literacy instruction to high-support learners from underprivileged and marginalised communities, with a significant proportion of students from indigenous Orang Asli backgrounds — developing culturally responsive, trauma-informed approaches to classroom engagement.
- Serves as Year 8 homeroom teacher, overseeing pastoral care, student welfare, and regular parent and community liaison.
- Provides individualised support for students with additional learning needs, applying differentiated strategies informed by psychology to maximise engagement and progress.
- Designs and evaluates formative and summative assessments, adapting instruction based on ongoing data and student feedback.

Roots & Shoots Malaysia (Jane Goodall Institute)

Youth Mentor

Mar 2026 – Present
Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

- Mentors young people in community leadership, environmental stewardship, and social responsibility.
- Supports youth in designing and implementing community projects targeting underserved populations.

Roots & Shoots Malaysia – DaYiMa Project

Community Health Educator & Volunteer (RASMA)

Jun 2025 – Oct 2025
Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

- Designed and delivered age-appropriate workshops on menstrual health and puberty to children aged 9–15 in underprivileged communities, including indigenous groups.
- Coordinated school partnerships, prepared project proposals, and managed full event logistics for community outreach sessions.
- Trained and briefed volunteers to ensure sensitive, inclusive, and culturally appropriate engagement with participants.

Bond International School

Special Education Teacher

Nov 2019 – May 2020
Colombo, Sri Lanka

- Provided intensive one-to-one and group support for students with ASD, ADHD, and other neurodevelopmental disorders.

- Conducted Functional Behaviour Assessments (FBA) and implemented Positive Behaviour Support (PBS) plans tailored to each child.
- Applied DIR/Floortime model and PECS communication systems to develop socio-emotional and communication skills.
- Designed step-by-step learning sequences and positive reinforcement systems to address learning barriers.

OKI International School

Sep 2020 – Sep 2021

English Teacher – Cambridge & Special Needs

Colombo, Sri Lanka

- Taught English language skills to Cambridge syllabus students across multiple year groups.
- Implemented DIR Model and PECS strategies to support Special Needs students' communication and socio-emotional development.
- Advocated for inclusive education practices within the institution, developing and adapting materials for diverse learners.

Queenswood Girls' College

Sep 2017 – Sep 2019

Teacher – English & Science

Colombo, Sri Lanka

- Implemented inclusive English and Science programmes serving a diverse student population including those with special needs.
- Developed differentiated curriculum materials and applied varied instructional strategies to maximise learning outcomes.
- Collaborated with cross-disciplinary teams to design and refine inclusive curricula for mixed-ability classes.

Self-Employed

Jan 2018 – Jul 2022

Private Tutor – IGCSE (Biology, Chemistry, Physics)

Colombo, Sri Lanka

- Tutored secondary students in IGCSE sciences with a strong record of examination success.
- Customised teaching methods to suit diverse learning styles, including students requiring additional academic support.

EDUCATION

Liverpool John Moores University – UK
MSc in Psychology (General)

Sep 2024 – May 2026 (Expected)

Cardiff Metropolitan University – UK
BSc (Hons) in Psychology

Oct 2020 – Nov 2021

ICBT Campus – Sri Lanka
Higher National Diploma in Psychology

Apr 2018 – Sep 2020

British Council Sri Lanka
APTIS English Assessment Certification

May 2019 – Nov 2019

CERTIFICATIONS

- Clinical Care for Autistic Adults – Harvard Medical School (Apr 2025)
- Teaching Students with Learning Disabilities – Unicaf University (Sep 2024)
- Health Services Management – Unicaf University (Sep 2024)

KEY SKILLS

Teaching & Education: Inclusive Education, Special Needs Teaching (ASD/ADHD), Differentiated Instruction, Lesson Planning, Classroom Management, Student Mentoring, Homeroom & Pastoral Care, Cambridge & IGCSE Curricula, Community-Based Education

Psychology & Therapeutic: DIR/Floortime Model, PECS Communication, Functional Behaviour Assessment (FBA), Positive Behaviour Support, Mental Health Advocacy, Child & Adolescent Psychology

Research & Analysis: Qualitative & Quantitative Research, SPSS Data Analysis, Academic Writing, Forensic Psychology, Menstrual Health Advocacy

Languages: English (Fluent), Tamil (Native), Sinhala (Conversational)

Work Rights: Eligible for visa sponsorship. Committed to obtaining Australian teacher registration upon commencement, in whichever state or territory the role is based.

PUBLICATIONS & ACADEMIC PROJECTS

- Kulendiren [Kuhandran], S. (2021). *Gender Differences in Academic Stress and Academic Pressure among Students aged 18-23 in Sri Lanka*. BSc Dissertation, Cardiff Metropolitan University. Supervisor: Gunaratne, S. Published on Zenodo: zenodo.org/records/17791147
- Kuhandran, S. (Feb 2024). *Domestic Violence - A Learned or an Innate Behaviour?* Medium. [\[Read article\]](#)
- Kuhandran, S. (Mar 2024). *Women Empowerment*. Medium. [\[Read article\]](#)

Full writing portfolio: medium.com/@shameeshikakulendiren

VOLUNTEER & COMMUNITY WORK

- Mentor, Roots & Shoots Malaysia – Youth leadership and environmental stewardship program (Mar 2026–Present).
- Community Health Educator, DaYiMa Project – Menstrual health education for underprivileged and indigenous children (Jun–Oct 2025).
- Volunteer, Free Tree Society Malaysia – Environmental education and biodiversity conservation (Jun–Aug 2025).

REFERENCES

Dr. Thirsha de Silva

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Mr. Dhananjaya Perera

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