# Pastoral Care Support



Respect, Creativity, Excellence, Resilience

The aim of the chaplaincy service is to offer pastoral support to students, staff and the school community.

# **The Pastoral Care Worker**

- assists school wellbeing staff in the delivery of pastoral care services/wellbeing programs
- works with school principal/wellbeing staff in providing students, their families and staff with support or appropriate referral pathways in difficult situations such as during times of grief or when students are facing personal or emotional challenges
- provides pastoral care and guidance to students about values and ethical matters or works with the principal/school wellbeing staff to refer students to, or sources appropriate services, to meet these needs; and facilitates access to support agencies in the community, where applicable
- supports students and staff to create an environment which promotes the physical, emotional, social and intellectual development and wellbeing of all students
- supports students and staff to create an environment of cooperation and mutual respect, promoting an understanding of diversity and the range of cultures and their related traditions
- is approachable to all students, staff and members of the school community
- supports students, their families and staff of all beliefs and not seeking to impose any beliefs or persuade an individual toward a particular set of beliefs.

When asked to engage with individual students, an informed, written parental consent must be first obtained. Parents may also request to the School Principal for their child to be excluded from any service provided by the Worker. Students are able to access the Pastoral Care Worker (PCW) through the Front Office and to obtain a brochure to learn more about Tim Wells and his role.

# The Pastoral Care Worker will:

- respect, accept and be sensitive to other people's views, values and beliefs regardless of race, religion, ability, sexual orientation, gender identity or gender expression
- work closely with, and/or as part of the school wellbeing committee or team to plan for and deliver student resilience and wellbeing services

- provide students, their families and staff with support or appropriate referrals (in consultation with the Principal) in difficult situations such as during times of grief or when students are facing personal or emotional challenges
- develop relationships with, and referring students/parents/carers to specialist services
  within the school as appropriate or externally under the direction of the school principal if
  there are existing state or school referral policies
- organise one-on-one or group sessions with students, parents, staff and other members
  of the school community as requested and required by the school community
- contribute to extra-curricular activities e.g. Mothers' and Fathers' Day breakfasts
- deliver student leadership and support programs
- participate in school activities such as sport, camps, gardens etc
- contribute to school newsletters
- report to school community organisations on service provision within the school community
- attend governing council or equivalent parent body meetings to provide details of the program and the services that are available, as required
- facilitate activities connecting students with other members of the community
- facilitate community partnership programs between the school and the wider community (in consultation with the principal and other relevant school wellbeing staff)

# **A Supportive Role**

#### The Pastoral Care Worker will:

- participate in a wide range of school community activities, and support staff, to contribute to creating a caring and inclusive learning environment within the school.
- on request, provide initial support or information to students, staff and other school community members.
- with written, informed parental consent, provide on-going personal assistance to individual students, subject to duty of care, consent, confidentiality and disclosure requirements and the TPPS Community Code of Conduct.
- offer support or information with regard to critical situations, grief, family breakdown.
- be available to provide ongoing support to individuals and/or families.
- provide additional opportunities for families to feel supported.

# A Referral Role

# The Pastoral Care Worker will:

 provide factual and impartial information about, network with, and be a link to, the support and services provided through community groups, including church groups, local council and government agencies.

- consult and liaise with student counsellors and other staff about student safety, wellbeing
  or learning while maintaining appropriate confidentiality, and referring students to other
  staff as required.
- be a mandated notifier, and thus be required to report any suspected abuse or neglect to the Department for Child Protection

# A Resource Role

#### The Pastoral Care Worker will:

- provide a reference point for addressing social, religious or spiritual issues.
- provide access to resources from the broader community which are relevant to school programs.
- be available to give input into health and social education courses (e.g. in the areas of grief, self-esteem, values or relationships).
- be available to give assistance with camps and excursions, and, where appropriate, initiate activities such as voluntary clubs or groups in the school.
- support groups such as the Student Voice and the Peer Support Program

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