Chaplaincy Corner

The chaplaincy service is provided to assist our school community to provide pastoral care and general spiritual, social and emotional comfort to all students, irrespective of their faith or beliefs. This can include support and guidance about ethics, values, relationships and spiritual issues; the provision of student welfare; and enhancing engagement with the broader community.

Please talk to the principal in order to arrange a one-on-one session for your child please return the request form to the school office.

The service is provided to parents, staff and students on a voluntary basis.

The Chaplain works closely with the Principal and the Primary Coordinator to link students to other support serves provided by the school.

What does our School Chaplain offer the School?

While the key tasks of a school chaplain will vary depending on the needs of individual school communities, they could include:

- working closely with, and/or as part of the school wellbeing committee or team to plan for and deliver student resilience and wellbeing services.
- providing students, their families and staff with support and/or appropriate referrals, in difficult situations such as during times of grief or when students are facing personal or emotional challenges
- supporting students who express a desire to explore their spirituality. This may include providing guidance about spirituality, values and ethical matters and/or appropriate referral of questions of faith/spirituality
- providing services with a spiritual content including facilitating discussion groups and lunch time clubs
- developing 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/territory or school referral policies
- organising 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
- delivering peer leadership and support programmes
- participating in school activities such as sport, camps, gardens etc
- contributing to school newsletters
• reporting to school community organisations on service provision within the school community

• attending Parents & Citizens’ or equivalent parent body meetings to provide details of the programme and the services that are available

• facilitating activities connecting students with other members of the community

• mentoring/coaching

• providing support and/or appropriate referral in times of grief and other critical events

• facilitating community partnership programmes between the school and the wider community.

**Current Programmes**

**Lunchtime Sports Program** – Allows primary students the opportunity to go to the MPH to play organised games and sports during lunch time.

**Active After School Communities Programme** – Our chaplain is overseeing the AASC program that is run after school on Tuesdays from 3:15-4:15.

**Mentoring Sessions** – Provides one-on-one mentoring with students going through a tough time or who need encouragement. This program is organised by school principal and with parent and child consent.

**Acknowledgement**

This project was funded by the Australian Government Department of Education under the National School Chaplaincy and Student Welfare Program.

**Other Details**

An annual survey on the chaplaincy position is put out by the school at the end of each year to hear from the school community on how the service is meeting needs and expectations. Other feedback is greatly appreciated throughout the year.