

Chaplaincy

RATIONALE Chaplains provide pastoral care to all people associated with the school community. The distinct role of chaplains in providing pastoral care to the school community ensures a link between the physical, psychological and spiritual wellbeing of school community members. Chaplaincy also provides a constant presence and ongoing care for all those within the school community.

Chaplains are expected to provide general religious and personal advice, comfort and support to all students and staff, regardless of their religious denomination, irrespective of their religious beliefs. (Australian Government (Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations 2010).

Essentially the chaplain becomes part of the fabric of the school, promoting and building positive relationships, implementing proactive programs and encouraging the wider community to be involved in the life of the school.

AIMS

- To provide the school community with pastoral care and general support.
- To encourage students to explore fundamental questions concerning the meaning and purpose of life.
- To assist staff, students and their parents, and the wider school community, in working towards positive educational outcomes.
- To promote students' self image, potential personal self growth and their relationships with peers and adults.
- To assist students to develop skills and insight in the areas of decision-making, beliefs and values.
- To enhance the links between the school and the local community.

IMPLEMENTATION

A Federal Government grant enables a chaplain to be employed at Buln Buln on a 0.4 time fraction. The key role of the chaplain is to facilitate and work collaboratively to support students, their families and the wider school community, as may be sought by permission and in accordance with the National School Chaplaincy and Student Welfare Program. Activities which the chaplain may perform include:

- Supporting & co-ordinating school/ community programs
 - Supporting classroom activities
 - Supporting excursions and camps
 - Co-ordinating lunch time activities
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Resources

- Classroom resources
- Resources for activities and programs
- Release for Professional Development as required by Access Ministries
- Use of computer

Evaluation

- Weekly statistics and monthly reports are provided by the Chaplain and to Access Ministries.
- Regular articles in the School newsletter.
- Written report and attendance at school council six monthly.
- Access Ministries undertakes an annual review.
- Review of activities undertaken in Chaplaincy program written for annual school magazine.

This Policy will be reviewed as part of the school's review cycle.

RESPONSIBILITY

School Principal, Chaplain