Program Outline

The National School Chaplaincy Program is a voluntary programme that assists school communities to support the spiritual, social, and emotional wellbeing of their students.

In our school the Chaplain’s role is to provide support and guidance for students about ethics, values, relationships and spirituality, provide pastoral care, and enhance the way students engage with each other and the broader community.

The activities of the Chaplain that are funded under the National Schools Chaplaincy and Student Welfare Program include:

- Developing positive relationships with students
- Being available for 1:1 discussions
- Participating in camps, excursions and assemblies
- Providing informal classroom encouragement and support

The school also provides a broad range of pastoral care mechanisms provided by teaching and non-teaching staff. As Christian schools, the curriculum is informed by a Christian world-view and biblical perspectives are embedded in the teaching and learning program. While complimenting the work of the Chaplain, these services and practices are not part of the National Schools Chaplaincy and Student Welfare program and are funded from other sources.

Participation

The school community has voluntarily chosen to participate in the program and has determined the role and choice of Chaplain. Therefore general interaction between the Chaplain and students within the school does not require mandatory opt-in arrangements. General interaction includes Chaplain attendance at school coordinated events such as school camps and assemblies, discussions with students who have approached the Chaplain directly during a moment of urgency or otherwise and general playground interaction.

Participation in activities and programs provided by the Chaplain are voluntary and it is not compulsory for students to participate. Student or families who wish to opt out may do so by informing the school office in writing.

1:1 time with the Chaplain may be arranged with the Chaplain directly or by speaking with the Principal.

Feedback

Complaints in relation to Chaplaincy matters should be directed to the Principal via the school office.

Community feedback about the program is important and may be provided at any time by speaking with the Principal.

Disclaimer

The views expressed herein do not necessarily represent the views of the Australian Government Department of Education.

Acknowledgement

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