

Student Welfare Worker

Since September 2012 we have been fortunate to have been able to employ a Student Welfare Worker, funded through the Federal Government's National Schools Chaplaincy and Student Welfare Program. School families were surveyed at the end of 2011 and an overwhelming majority supported the employment of a student welfare worker.

Role of the Student Welfare Worker (Pamela Hansen)

The SWW is responsible for supporting the spiritual, social, and emotional wellbeing of students regardless of faith or beliefs. She provides support for a range of day to day matters affecting the school community and communicates effectively with a diverse group of people.

She works collaboratively with the staff, students and Governing Council to explore possibilities for support of children. She supports the school values in all aspects of his work, providing support towards the wellbeing of staff, students and parent community through:

- being part of the Student Review Team
- developing resources and a referral network for external referrals for students/families/staff
- supporting classes, excursions, camps,
- being part of the Good Beginnings program in the first three weeks of every year,
- being trained in and supporting our Anti-Bullying, Cyber Safety and Restorative Practices programs
- keeping Governing Council and school community informed of the role, actions and responsibilities
- supporting spiritual well-being of our diverse community,
- supporting students through crises
- being an empathetic ear to students experiencing difficulties
- providing activities in conjunction with the Helping Hands student peer support group to support children at lunch and recess times.

The diversity of our school community, the issues peculiar to it and the families with whom we work are added complexities that are well supported with the employment of a student welfare officer.

Accessing the Student Support Worker (SSW)

Families who wish to access the SSW may make a time to meet with her on Wednesdays when she is at Eden Hills. Please see the Front Office for contact details.

Students may access support from the SSW by negotiation.

Parents who do not want their child to access the SSW on a 1:1 basis should indicate this on the consent form sent home to families. There will be many occasions however when the SSW will be providing programs such as cyber safety or supporting classes on excursions where consent will not be sought. If you have a concern please see the Principal.

Making a complaint

All attempts should be made to resolve complaints at the local level by speaking to the Principal who is the complaints manager. However, if a complaint cannot be resolved at the school level, or if a complainant does not wish to address their complaint to the School Principal, Complaints Officer or Funding Recipient, they may be made directly to the Department by completing the complaint reporting form available at the Program website:

www.deewr.gov.au/schoolchaplaincyandwelfare