

## **National School Chaplaincy Program**

Galilee School is participating in the National School Chaplaincy (NSCP).

Galilee School acknowledges the financial and other support of the school through this program provided by the Australian and ACT Governments.

The general nature of the chaplaincy services are regularly reviewed and are amended by the school, and informed by consultation with the school community.

Participation in the chaplaincy program is voluntary. Students will not be obliged to participate in the Program, and parents and students will regularly be informed by the school about the availability and the voluntary nature of these services.

If a student or family does not wish to utilise the services of the Chaplain they simply need to indicate that desire at any time either directly to the Chaplain or to a member of the Galilee School Executive Team or the Principal.

Access to advice, support and guidance about ethics, values and relationships are already available in Galilee School through existing services: youth workers, teachers, learning support staff and programs delivered by community organisations.

NSCP funded services are designed to complement existing wellbeing services provided within the school community.

### **The aims of the NSCP service within the school**

The objectives of the Program are to assist school communities to provide pastoral care and general social and emotional, and spiritual support 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.

### **An overview of the role of the chaplain within the school**

Participation in the Program by school communities is voluntary. Participation by students is voluntary. Students, parents and carers all have the choice about using the services of a school chaplain.

Galilee School has taken the position to engage the school Chaplain directly. As a member of staff, the Chaplain is a member of the Student Support team within the school. In that context, interaction between the Chaplain and students, as part of the normal operations of the school, will not require consent to be sought prior to such interactions.

Where more extended, out of hours or engagement that would fall outside of 'normal' operations, would be discussed with parents/carers on a case by case basis and appropriate permissions sought (consistent with the principle of operating with the best interests of the young person in mind).

Galilee School will regularly seek feedback from the school community about the demand for, and role of our school chaplain.

## **Procedures for arranging for one-on-one sessions (either young people or families, parents and carers)**

Consistent with established practice within the school, young people in need of or seeking support are empowered and encouraged to seek that support from any staff member with whom they feel comfortable (this includes the school chaplain). Such support can be one-on-one or as part of a broader conversation.

Families, parents or carers are also encouraged to contact the school if they wish to discuss any questions, concerns or issues that they may have. Appointments with the School Chaplain can be made by ringing the school office: 6293 6314 or by emailing <mailto:galilee.school@commsatwork.org>.

## **Complaints handling avenues**

Galilee School takes the handling of complaints very seriously. At all-times we seek to be respectful and responsive to responding to complaints.

To ensure we are continually improving, we invite feedback from our clients and community. You may wish to complement our staff or a service we provide, draw our attention to an opportunity for improvement, or make a general enquiry.

To submit a complaint, make suggestions for improvement etc. can be made via our website here: <https://www.commsatwork.org/about-us/contact-us/>

Specific complaints regarding the School Chaplaincy Program can also be made by submitting the attached NSCP Complaints Form directly to the school at <mailto:galilee.school@commsatwork.org>