



School Chaplaincy Service

Chaplaincy is a well-accepted and valued pastoral care model in many parts of society (e.g. defence forces, emergency services, sports, industry, hospitals etc.).

The Chaplaincy Service at East Adelaide School is provided by a Pastoral Care Worker, on behalf of the local combined Christian community, employed by Schools Ministry Group (SMG).

The Chaplaincy Service is federally funded by the National School Wellbeing Program (NSWP), administered by Department for Education in South Australia. Each school must apply for funding under the NSWP for wellbeing support that best suits their context. East Adelaide School has applied for a Pastoral Care Worker to work alongside their Wellbeing Coordinator and Leadership Team.

The aim of this service is to offer pastoral and practical support to students, staff and the school community.

Our Pastoral Care Worker supports our school community in the following ways:

- Working closely and in partnership with leadership and other wellbeing staff in the school to provide pastoral care and practical support to students, families and staff as requested.
- Providing pastoral care in a 'first response' capacity to critical incidents, referring to specialist support, and to provide ongoing presence and follow-up.
- Being well positioned to work across the whole school to 'build a sense of' community, harmony and cohesion.
- Being trained and equipped to provide our school with 6 dimensions of chaplaincy:
 - role modelling and mentoring
 - social and emotional support
 - spiritual support
 - school engagement
 - community engagement
 - extra-curricular contribution



Chaplaincy Services **promote** student wellbeing, engaging young people in activities that are **preventative** and which support early intervention and referral of mental health issues. The role is to contribute to a supportive, connected school community where students and families thrive toward academic and emotional excellence.

Other facts about the SMG Chaplaincy Service in SA Government Schools:

- The recruitment process for a Pastoral Care Worker is acknowledged by the Department for Education, and meets the standards required for a religious based role such as a Pastoral Care Worker.
- The Pastoral Care Worker job description does not include provision of Religious Education, and proselytising is explicitly prohibited.
- Pastoral Care Workers appointed are required to have a minimum qualification of Certificate IV in Youth Work (or equivalent), and to undertake relevant, ongoing Professional Development.
- All Pastoral Care Workers have a Working with Children Check child-related employment screening and are Department for Education trained mandated notifiers.
- Access to the Pastoral Care Worker by students is voluntary and parents are asked to give written approval for the Pastoral Care Worker to provide ongoing personal support.
- SMG and Pastoral Care Workers partner with local churches and other community groups to provide financial, practical and volunteer support to schools where possible and relevant.

The School community is consulted and makes the decision to proceed with an application for NSW funding for a Chaplaincy Service. Please talk to the School Principal for further details.

A Grievance Procedure for any formal complaint is available from the School Principal.

Disclaimer

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