

## WHAT IS A CHAPLAINCY SERVICE?

A Chaplaincy Service is provided by a Pastoral Care Worker (PCW) in a school community on behalf of the local combined Christian community to provide additional support as needed.



### Pastoral Care Workers

- Provide pastoral care in a 'first response' capacity to critical incidents, refer to specialist support and to provide ongoing presence and follow-up
- Work closely and in partnership with leadership and other wellbeing staff in schools to provide pastoral care and practical support to students, families and staff as requested
- Are well positioned to work across the whole school to 'build a sense of' community, harmony and cohesion
- Are trained and equipped to provide their school with a unique dimension of social, emotional and spiritual support in line with the DECD wellbeing framework

### Partnerships

Your local school and your local church work together to provide your Pastoral Care Worker.



## WHY A CHAPLAINCY SERVICE?

### The Facts

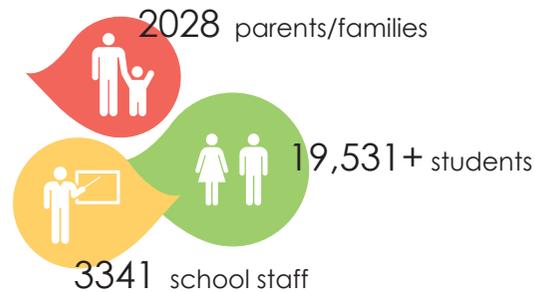
Students today face a more complex and challenging environment than ever before.

- 15% of young Australians are currently experiencing an anxiety condition
- Bullying is the leading social issue among SA students
- Just under half of all divorces occur among couples with children under 18
- 15% of SA students miss out on breakfast

source: ABS Statistics collected 2007, 2013

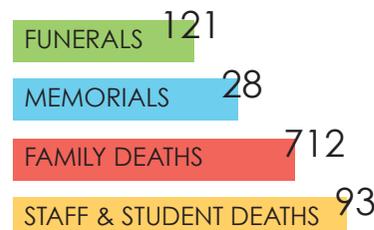
### Support in SA Schools:

#### Outcomes from a 2014 Survey



Figures based on results from 20 day survey

### Grief & Loss



Figures based on 5 monthly overview / \*PCW's address the top two social issues expressed by students in the 2013 ABS Census of School

### Other Activities

Mentoring  
Healthy Eating\*  
Support for Parents  
Suicide Prevention  
Anti-Bullying\*



Cut off and keep for reference

## PASTORAL CARE WORKER: ELLEN BURFORD



Hi! My name's Ellen Burford and I'm your Pastoral Care Worker. I was a student at MDS once upon a time, so it's fun to be back as part of the school family again!

I really value our local community and the relationships that hold it together, and I see this school as a key place where those relationships are formed and nurtured. School is also a critical space where young people can be equipped for life. I hope to contribute to this by being a positive presence in the school, supporting the school community (students, staff and families) in diverse ways and by influencing people to discover purpose, value and hope in their lives.

Students and their families are welcome to make a time to chat with me either by approaching me directly or going through another staff member.

Places you might find me at MDS include the yard at recess or lunch, helping out in classrooms or my office.

### My regular days at school are:

Monday - Friday

### Contact Details:

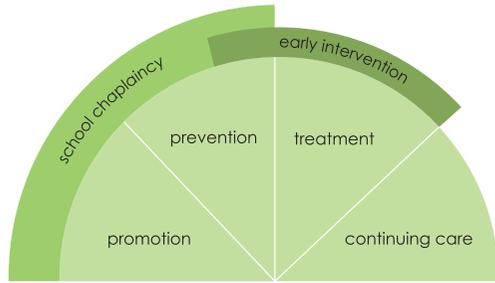
Office: Ellen's Room, next to the Study room in the Library building

Message box: Leave a message for me in the message box on the Library desk

Email: ellen.burford730@schools.sa.edu.au

## CHAPLAINCY & WELLBEING

Chaplaincy Services promote student wellbeing, engaging young people in activities that are preventative and which support early intervention and referral of mental health issues.



## PRINCIPALS ARE SAYING...

The benefits of the program are clear and include; increased attendance at school by identified students, social and emotional support, increased access to social skills programs and families feeling supported in time of crisis such as suicide, death and family separations.

### Primary School Principal

A lot of student problems never eventuate because Trev has provided support and encouragement early on. The students always walk away from their time with Trev with more bounce in their step....It is hard to imagine our school without thinking of our Worker.

### High School Principal



Supporting School Communities  
Across South Australia Since 1991

**Schools Ministry Group (SMG) coordinate and facilitate Chaplaincy Services in government schools across South Australia.**

- School Chaplaincy commenced in SA Government schools in 1986.
- SMG partners with schools, local churches, state and federal governments to deliver Chaplaincy Services through the engagement of a Pastoral Care Worker.
- SMG works collaboratively with these partners in the recruitment, supervision and ongoing professional development of PCW's to ensure the placement of high quality workers who are well equipped to support young people and strengthen communities.
- Pastoral Care Workers are funded from two main sources - the National School Chaplaincy Program (administered by DECD) and the local church communities.
- The Chaplaincy Service provided through your PCW is a voluntary program offered to school communities.



[www.smg.asn.au](http://www.smg.asn.au)



Young People and School Communities  
Discovering Purpose, Value and Hope

## MINLATON DISTRICT SCHOOL

## OUR PASTORAL CARE WORKER

A Chaplaincy Service provided by  
Schools Ministry Group (SMG)

