CHAPLAINCY PROGRAM

The Chaplaincy program is an optional service introduced into the school and offers an additional dimension to school's care, guidance and support of students with spiritual, religious and/or ethical needs. The Chaplain supports and assists in the development and implementation of a caring, supportive learning environment.

The school Chaplain is available to provide pastoral care to students, to provide support to parents and staff at times agreed to by the principal. The Chaplaincy program complements other services and school support staff and is not a counseling service. The program is inclusive of and shows respect for all religious and non-religious beliefs and other stances represented in the school community. All activities and events are non-discriminatory and equitably available to students, of all beliefs, who choose to participate.

The Chaplain contributes towards addressing religious, spiritual and/or ethical needs of students. Whilst personally modeling and owning their own faith positions or belief, the Chaplain avoids any implications that any one religion, denomination or other set of beliefs is advantageous or superior to any other denomination, religion or belief.

Funding for Chaplaincy services comes from a variety of sources. Local churches donate to Scripture Union, who is the employing and coordinating body responsible for Chaplaincy services to schools. The P&C also raise money to contribute to Scripture Union to enable the program to continue. Alexandra Hills State School recently received a Federal Government Grant of $20 000 each year for 3 years to employ the Chaplain for a further 2 days per week which means that the Chaplain is in the school 3 days per week Wednesday to Friday.

Our school Chaplain is Terry Keen and he supports students in a number of ways. Students can request to see the Chaplain or may be involved with small group activities. Permission is required for students to access the Chaplain so please complete the attached forms and return them to the school office to enable us to update our records and then if your child/ren request access to the Chaplain we can check our records to ensure it is with your support. If we do not have parent/carers permission on record then we will need to contact you if your child/ren request access to the Chaplain.

Thanking you,

Adam Mathewson
Principal
## Parent/Guardian Consent for Voluntary Student Participation in Chaplaincy Program

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Parent/Guardian Name/s</th>
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<td>Student Name (in full)</td>
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This school community provides a chaplaincy program endorsed by the school’s Parents and Citizens’ Association and available on a voluntary basis to all students. The chaplain is involved in a range of activities which happen at this school which are free of religious, spiritual and/or ethical content. These activities are available to all students on a voluntary basis unless a parent or guardian requests in writing that this is not to occur for their child/ren.

Chaplains may also be involved in activities with religious, spiritual and/or ethical content and additional consent is sought from parent/guardians for these specific activities.

Information about the school’s chaplaincy program is on the school’s website. Prior to commencement of any additional activities with religious, spiritual and/or ethical content in the school, parents/guardians will be advised through the school newsletter and website.

### Voluntary Student Activities without Religious, Spiritual and/or Ethical Content

These activities are available to students on a voluntary basis if a parent or guardian has given consent in writing.

1. List activities without religious, spiritual and/or ethical content provided at the school through the chaplaincy program.
   - e.g. breakfast clubs, coaching sporting teams, mentoring programs, outdoor education programs
2. Include a short descriptor of each activity for parental information.

### Voluntary Student Activities with Religious, Spiritual and/or Ethical Content

These activities are available to students on a voluntary basis if a parent or guardian has given consent in writing.

1. List activities with religious, spiritual and/or ethical content provided at the school through the chaplaincy program.
   - e.g. SUPA Club, one-to-one meeting with chaplain for religious and spiritual support, Prayer Meetings, Groups Visiting School for Performances e.g. Christian Band
2. Include a short descriptor of each activity for parental information.

**Please tick one of the boxes below:**

- [ ] I give my consent for my child/ren to participate in these activities.
- [ ] I do not give my consent for my child/ren to participate in these activities.

**Please tick one of the boxes below:**

- [ ] I give my consent for my child/ren to participate in these activities.
- [ ] I do not give my consent for my child/ren to participate in these activities.

☐ I understand that, where I agree that my child/ren can participate in the chaplaincy program, this information will be passed on to the school chaplain.

Parent’s Signature _________________________________              Date __________

Office Use: Retain original in student’s file and provide a copy of notice to the parent/guardian.