

# School Chaplaincy at Sheffield School

## School chaplaincy –

- **Supporting and caring for students, staff and families**
- **Helping people to discover their own story**



School Chaplaincy at Sheffield School is funded by the Federal Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations through the National School Chaplaincy and Student Welfare Program, the school and local funding through the Local Chaplaincy Committee.

The chaplaincy service at this school is approved by the School Association. Each year a school community consultation process is conducted through the School Association to establish approval for funding for the following year and the continuation of the service.

The chaplain is available to support students, parents and staff. If you would like to make an appointment for your child or yourself to see the chaplain, please contact the school office.

N.B. Participation by students in the chaplaincy program is voluntary.

If you do not want your child/ren to be involved in the chaplaincy service in this school, please register your intention at the office.

## What is a School Chaplain?

- This program aims to help our school community support the spiritual, social and emotional wellbeing of our students
- Chaplains are a part of the student support services team in this school.
- Chaplains provide students, their families and staff with support and appropriate referrals
- Chaplains participate in school activities e.g. camps, excursions, sports events, garden and cooking programs
- Chaplains have relevant qualifications, with a minimum of Cert IV in Youth Work and Diploma level or working towards Diploma level.
- Chaplains participate in regular professional learning/training.

## Aims of the School Chaplaincy Service

Our school chaplain is at school Tuesday to Friday each week.

The chaplain is:

- a role model for students
- a listening ear/confidant
- a caring presence
- a resource on spirituality, values, meaning and purpose
- a link between your school and its community

## Roles and Responsibilities of Chaplains NSCSWP Guidelines

The roles and responsibilities of School Chaplains can be viewed in the National School Chaplaincy and Student Welfare Program Guidelines (pages 9-11) at:

<http://deewr.gov.au/news/updated-national-school-chaplaincy-and-student-welfare-program-guidelines>

### Introducing our chaplain, Esther Wass

- I am a wife and mother of two living in the Kentish Community and am in my third year as Chaplain at Sheffield School.
- Passionate about music, I love taking the opportunity to be involved in this area at school, whenever the opportunity arises.
- Programs run within this school are:  
'CHIC' - for Gr 7 girls. This is a small group program that addresses the important issues of good choice making, friendships and knowing your identity.  
'PEAC' - for Gr 5 boys. This program promotes resilience and team building skills.
- Completion of Study Units – Youth Work;  
Certificate IV, Christian Ministry & Theology.
- Personal Aim:  
I believe there is an inbuilt need within children to be taught well and protected, as we defend and prevent on their behalf on a daily basis. This is an order of life that comes naturally as an accepted expectation from them. To be an advocate on their behalf in an arena where they normally wouldn't have a voice, allows for a healthy environment.



### How can you support our chaplain?

- Become part of the Local Chaplaincy Committee (LCC) which oversees the service. The LCC meets once a term to review the chaplain's work and to make recommendations and goals for future action. The dates of these meetings can be obtained from the school office/newsletter.
- Volunteer as a helper in programs run by the chaplain – a current Department of Education Good Character Check is essential
- Contribute feedback in person or via email to the chaplain or Principal.

## What if you have a complaint about the chaplain?

- If you have reason to make a complaint regarding the chaplain, arrange to meet with the complaints officer – Principal, Mr Ron Daly
- Scripture Union Tasmania, the funding recipient and service provider for the service, can also be contacted (details below). You are entitled to make an anonymous complaint. All complaints will be kept strictly confidential.
- All attempts will be made to resolve complaints at the local level.
- If do not wish to address your 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](http://www.deewr.gov.au/schoolchaplaincyandwelfare) or emailing [schoolchaplaincyandwelfarecomplaints@deewr.gov.au](mailto:schoolchaplaincyandwelfarecomplaints@deewr.gov.au)



Scripture Union Tasmania is the Funding Recipient and service provider of the Australian Government's National School Chaplaincy and Student Welfare Program at this school and the Tasmanian Department of Education approved provider of school chaplaincy in the state.

This chaplaincy position is supported and managed by a Local Chaplaincy Committee comprising representatives from the school and local community.

## Contacts

### Scripture Union of Tasmania

23 Clarence Street, Bellerive 7018

Phone: (03) 6244 8422

Fax: (03) 6244 8477

Email: [enquiries@sutas.org.au](mailto:enquiries@sutas.org.au)

### Our Chaplain's contact details

School Phone: (03)6491 8222

[esther.wass@education.tas.gov.au](mailto:esther.wass@education.tas.gov.au)

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### Disclaimer

The views expressed herein do not necessarily represent the views of the Australian Government Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations.