

5.2 Pastoral Care and Counselling

Statement of Intent

Onslow College places student welfare at the centre of all it does. It is a place where students feel welcome, affirmed and supported.

Definition

In this policy pastoral care refers to the responsibility of the school for the general well-being of students.

Board Expectations

The board's expectations regarding pastoral care and counselling are that:

- pastoral care of students is a feature of all teacher/student relationships
- additional support through counselling is readily available to students who need or want it
- students' emotional safety is a priority
- threats to students' physical and emotional safety are identified and addressed

Supporting Documents

- The Board expects that the following documents outlining management policies, procedures or practices are in place and are consistent with this policy. Where they have been developed by the school they will be regularly reviewed by management. These documents are available to the Board on request:
 - the management of traumatic incidents
 - the identification, assessment, intervention and management of students at risk of suicide
 - confidentiality in counselling
 - privacy of guidance and pastoral care matters
 - guidelines for practice following disclosure of abuse
 - job descriptions for counsellors and deans

Delegations

The implementation of this policy is delegated to the Executive Group.

Review date May 2017

Date for next review 2020