



Policy 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. In this policy pastoral care refers to the responsibility of the school for the general well-being of students. All interactions are guided by the school’s vision and values.

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’ physical and 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 reviewed once a year by management. These documents are available to the Board on request:

- Traumatic Incidents: Managing Student and Staff Wellbeing A Guide for School Crisis Management Teams
<https://www.education.govt.nz/assets/Documents/School/Traumatic-incidents-and-emergencies/Traumatic-incidents-schools-Guidelines-for-wellbeing.pdf>
- Preventing and responding to suicide – Resource kit for schools the identification, assessment, intervention and management of students at risk of suicide
- NZ Association of Counsellors Code of Ethics
<https://www.nzac.org.nz/ethics/code-of-ethics/>
- Job descriptions for counsellors and deans

Delegations

The implementation of this policy is delegated to the Principal.

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Effective Date: April 2021	Review Cycle: Within 3 years	Due for review: April 2024