



Helidon State School Chaplaincy Program

Chaplaincy Services provide spiritual, ethical, and personal support to school communities. SU Qld Chaplains provide positive adult role models for students. Chaplains are present in schools at the invitation of the Principal, in consultation with the local community, and with the support of the P&C Association.

What does a School Chaplain do?

A School Chaplain is a safe person for young people to connect with at school and provides a listening ear, caring presence, and a message of hope. Chaplains run positive, fun activities for students and assist in fostering supportive, caring school communities.

Working with other members of the school's support team, the Chaplain cares for students struggling with issues such as difficult relationships with other children or family members, poor self-esteem, family breakdown, and depression.

The partnership between the school and the Chaplaincy Service, supported by local churches, businesses and community organisations, provides a network of local support and assistance. These positive relationships help young people to face difficult issues, and provide hope, connection, meaning, and purpose.

The Chaplaincy Service is available to everyone in the school community regardless of their religious beliefs.

Who is the Helidon State School Chaplain?

Our School Chaplain is Mr Don Truss. Don has been in the role of School Chaplain since 2008, beginning at Rangeville State School. He is now working as a School Chaplain across three schools, Murphy's Creek, Helidon State School and Flagstone Creek State School.

Don is married to Miriam, and they have a young family with a 2 year old daughter and another child due soon.

Don has interests in Art, Sport and Music, which have been wonderful assets in his role as a School Chaplain.

What will Chaplaincy look like at Helidon State School in 2014?

During 2014, our School Chaplain will assist with sporting and cultural programs, assist in classrooms, run programs that help students develop social and life skills, run lunchtime clubs, assist with Breakfast Club and run afterschool programs. Students may request to see the Chaplain on an individual basis for support in personal matters.

Will my child be involved?

Involvement with the Chaplain is entirely voluntary and students choose whether or not they want to be a part of the activities that are offered. Parents will be consulted if their child wishes to be involved in ongoing one-to-one meetings with the Chaplain or in any programme or group involving spiritual or ethical content. Parents have the right to refuse permission for their child to be involved in any Chaplaincy activity or event.

How can I contact the Chaplain?

The School Chaplain can be contacted at the school on Tuesdays and Wednesdays or by email - donwtruss@yahoo.com

Disclaimer

The views expressed herein do not necessarily represent the views of the Australian Government Department of Education.

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