

National School Chaplaincy Program (NSCP)

March 2016 Newsletter

Welcome to the first DECD National School Chaplaincy Program newsletter.

The NSCP quarterly newsletters provide information about the program including key facts, program updates, relevant due dates and good news stories.

Who is the newsletter for?

- Participating DECD schools and school communities
- NSCP service providers
- Pastoral Care Workers
- DECD staff

Did you know?



- The Australian Government funded program aims to support the wellbeing of school communities through the provision of pastoral care services and strategies that support the emotional wellbeing of the broader school community.
- Within South Australian government schools, NSCP funded workers are called Pastoral Care Workers (PCW).
- School and student participation is voluntary
- Continuation of the service in schools is dependent on ongoing school community support
- 332 DECD schools are participating in 2016
- The Catholic and Independent sectors also participate in the program
- DECD does not employ Pastoral Care Workers. Rather they are employed by third party service providers
- 4 service providers are delivering NSCP services in government schools during 2016
- Service providers do not need to be religious based organisations and /or Pastoral Care Workers can be secular¹ as long as they meet program requirements including but not limited to:
 - the PCW
 - meets minimum qualification requirements
 - holds relevant child protection clearances
 - may be from any faith or endorsed by an accepted religious organisation
- has a letter of assurance from an accepted religious organisation that the potential employee meets the PCW criteria in the NSCP Project Agreement²
- the service provider is a legal entity (an organisation incorporated under Commonwealth or State legislation) that may enter into a Contract with the Department of Education and Child Development in order to provide Pastoral Care services to public schools.

¹ These definitions were provided to DECD by the Australian Government who funds the program.

² Refer footnote 1.

NSCP Service Agreements

To purchase NSCP services, NSCP funded schools must issue a purchase order to the service provider in conjunction with a DECD NSCP Service Agreement. The Service Agreement was developed in collaboration with the DECD Procurement Unit and published on the NSCP website in the latter half of 2015. Copies are available on the NSCP website.

Program Documentation Review



The NSCP Guidelines and supporting documentation (all available on the NSCP website) are currently undergoing review. This is to ensure that content is as comprehensive and clear as possible and reflective of departmental policy and procedures.

Stakeholders will be notified of the details of the review including consultation process timeframes in the future via the NSCP website (for external stakeholders) and LinkedIn articles (for site leaders).

Good News Stories

Joy Marks, a Pastoral Care Worker employed by Schools Ministry Group at Mannum Community College, was recognised in the Murray Valley Standard newspaper in August 2015 for her community-building work which includes coordinating mentoring programs, youth camps and a drop-in centre in Mannum.

The full article is [here](#).

We welcome any good news stories from our stakeholders about the NSCP service in your school. If you have a good news story to share regarding the NSCP, please submit to the NSCP inbox at DECD.chaplaincy@sa.gov.au

Helpful Information

The NSCP webpage is the most updated source of information for all things NSCP including documentation and information on any program requirements.

Links:

[DECD NSCP Webpage](#)

[DECD NSCP Guidelines](#)

Contact Details



Contact DECD on DECD.chaplaincy@sa.gov.au or call

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