HOW DO SCHOOL CHAPLAINS HELP STUDENTS WITH BULLYING?



Chaplains have 556 pastoral conversations per week with students about bullying.

Bullying is one of the top three issues students talk to their chaplain about.



The number of targeted anti-bullying programs chaplains run in an average school term.

Forms of bullying*

Face-to-face bullying 84%

Cyberbullying 16%

Verbal 46%

Social 36%

Physical 17%

With permission from the school principal, chaplains may refer families and individuals to relevant internal and external agencies for additional support.

WHAT DOES SCHOOL CHAPLAINCY LOOK LIKE?



Your schooling years are said to be among the best times of your life. Sadly, for many young Queenslanders, they're not. Instead, it's a time of pain and rejection, which can often cause problems well into adult life. For Deception Bay State High School graduate, Cloe, this could have been her story...

Before transferring to Deception Bay State High, Cloe had left her previous school, vowing never to return after she'd endured relentless bullying that escalated to alarming levels. Cloe was robbed of her self-esteem and saw no hope for the future.

"[The bullying] affected me a lot. It made me feel like I wasn't good enough and it had a huge impact on my life. It's scarred me. It still affects me to this day."

Cloe joined the FUTURES program for at-risk students at her new school, which is supported every day by SU QLD chaplains. It was here that she began to regain the self-worth that was stolen from her. She was able to pursue a future she had thought was unattainable.

"I had no idea that I would be capable of doing a certificate or diploma," says Cloe, who previously hadn't even considered graduating high school, let alone going on to further study.

"Now I know that I can finish my current certificates and be a personal trainer."

Chaplaincy made this transition possible, says Cloe.

"Having a chaplain to speak to got me through my time here. Every time I'm going through something, I know that there's someone I can speak to and that I'm not alone. So whatever I'm struggling with, I know my chaplain is there to help when I need it."

Cloe's journey from victim to victor is the result of a combination of her own courage and her chaplain's support.

Without the chaplain to support her and reignite her self-worth, Cloe may not have started on her path to a positive, flourishing life.

WHAT OTHER WAYS DO SCHOOL CHAPLAINS PROVIDE SUPPORT?



Chaplains make a significant contribution to the wellbeing of school communities through the facilitation of social, emotional, and spiritual wellbeing programs, such as FRIENDS Resilience, Rock and Water, Triple P, and Seasons for Growth.



How many programs do chaplains run in an average school term?*

*Figures are rounded



359

Breakfast clubs



246

Spiritual support



18

Grief and loss



237

Mentoring and role modelling



Community development, events, and activities



347

Social-emotional support

Educational support

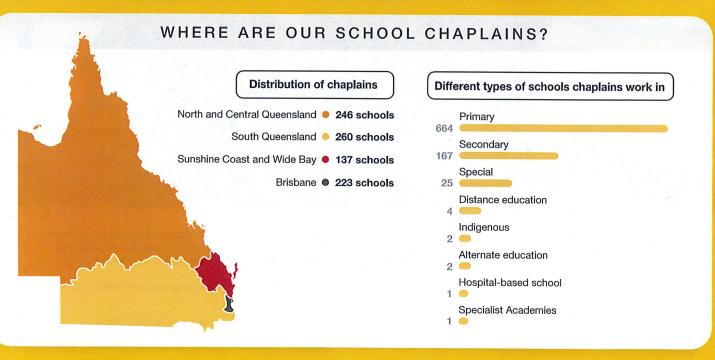


80 Anti-bullying

DO SCHOOL CHAPLAINS SUPPORT THOSE AT-RISK?

School chaplains are available to everyone, but they are particularly invested in supporting individuals and groups who may be considered at-risk. Through early intervention activities and pastoral support, school chaplains increase the chances of these young people experiencing better life outcomes.





If you would like to download this report, visit suchaplaincy.org.au/snapshot2019.



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