



M A R I S T C O L L E G E E M E R A L D

DISCLOSURE STATEMENT TO STUDENTS and FAMILIES

Date Published: August 2016



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Marist provides counselling services for our students as part of the pastoral care system at the College.

The current College Counsellor is employed as a permanent, three days a week staff member.

Students are encouraged to make use of this support if they need assistance or guidance. There are a number of things which students and their parents should know before accessing support through the Counsellor.

1. Records are made of counselling sessions. These records are hand written and kept in a confidential, secure room at the College. Electronically stored information is kept on a separate hard drive, in the same confidential, secure room. All records are property of the College, not property of the Counsellor. Notes and records are kept for 25 years at the College
2. Marist is very conscious of the need for confidentiality between Counsellor and student, however at times it may be necessary for the Counsellor to divulge the contents of a session. Records may be shared with the College Principal if the Principal and / or the College Counsellor deem it important for the students wellbeing
3. Disclosures of sexual, physical, psychological, emotional or verbal abuse or risk of these forms of abuse will be reported to both the student protection team at the College and external student protection services. Reporting disclosures of harm, whether current or historical, will always take precedence over confidentiality in counselling sessions
4. Where a disclosure is made, the information in this is kept limited to those who are specifically trained in student protection issues and those who need to know. Unless the student/s consent/s to wider circle of information sharing, this information is kept limited to those who need to be directly involved in the support and duty of care for the student/s.

Marist College Emerald makes note that whilst Counselling sessions are aimed at being kept confidential, at times session information will need to be divulged, however only to relevant people and only for the intention of further supporting the students wellbeing or following duty of care student protection policies.

If a student is not prepared to use the College Counselling services on the basis set out above the student is encouraged to obtain counselling services outside of Marist.