



CHRIST'S COLLEGE
CANTERBURY

CHRIST'S COLLEGE COUNSELLOR

Position Context

Since 1850, Christ's College has prepared generation after generation of young men for success in an ever-changing world. Catering for dayboys and boarders from Years 9 to 13, College combines innovation and excellence with tradition. We strive to prepare our young men with the skills and attitudes they need to succeed in life, always mindful of the needs of others and adhering to the core Christian values of honesty, respect and compassion. We want boys to feel comfortable to be themselves, while striving to be the best they can. Our mission is *each boy at his best*.

As a key member of the pastoral team, the full-time, ongoing Christ's College Counsellor is a member of the Centre for Wellbeing and Positive Education (CfW&PE) and is accountable to the Deputy Principal who leads pastoral care. The College Counsellor will work alongside the Director of the CfW&PE and be seen both within and beyond the College as a key part of that Centre.

This significant role within the College is a balance of proactive programme engagement on Wellbeing and Positive Education initiatives and addressing the particular specialist intervention and care of students as they present from time to time. The Counsellor works as conduit between College and specialist services as required consequent of and following appropriate interventions.

The College Counsellor will work alongside other members of the College community and contribute to the ongoing development of policies, practices and procedures reflecting their expertise. They will facilitate through their work at College the belief of educating College boys to lead meaningful and fulfilling lives for themselves and for the benefit of others as they seek to achieve personal and collective excellence.

Expectations of Appointee

- Current Specialist qualifications in counselling
- Current Member of NZAC

Remuneration

- Salary will be set based on the PPTA Secondary Teachers Collective Agreement plus two Counsellor Management Units
- In addition, you will be eligible for the Christ's College annual supplement that will see you involved in the College's co-curricular programme

Ideal Person Specification

- Experience and leadership in the pastoral care of young people
- School-based counselling experience working within the guidelines of the NZAC Code of Ethics
- Psychological qualifications relevant to the role would be desirable
- An understanding and expertise (or an interest in developing same), in the emerging field of Wellbeing and Positive Education
- Excellent interpersonal and communication skills
- A professional approach and the ability to work co-operatively and effectively with colleagues to develop professional relationships
- Empathy and sensitivity to other cultures and the particular needs of boys living in a residential community
- Ability to work independently and as part of a team

POSITION DESCRIPTION CHRIST'S COLLEGE COUNSELLOR

Reporting to: Deputy Principal

Functional Relationships:

Internal

- Executive Principal
- Deputy Principal
- Director of Boarding and the Centre for Character and Leadership
- Director of the Centre for Wellbeing and Positive Education
- Housemasters' and teaching staff
- Other members of the Common Room
- Students

External

- Parents
 - Members of the wider school community
 - Outside agencies and community groups
-

Primary Function:

1. To take a lead role in the pastoral care network of Christ's College supporting the system to meet the needs of the College community. To support and maintain emerging positive psychology and wellbeing principles and practices for all Christ's College students and staff.
 2. The pursuit of personal excellence and positive accomplishment by each College boy in all aspects of school life. This role is to facilitate the school's mission of *Each boy at his best* while providing support to those in need.
-

Key tasks:

- Provide within College a counselling service that supports the needs of students and whanau as required
- In consultation with the College pastoral care team and the Director of Wellbeing and Positive Education, develop and maintain a Wellbeing and Positive Education outlook for the College community inclusive of students, staff and whanau

Students

- By being a presence in and around student activities and by teaching, coaching and mentoring as appropriate, support the development of elements of Wellbeing and Positive Education as a foundation for student self-efficacy
- Through personal behaviour and professional engagement be seen by the student community as an accessible, friendly member of staff who is in place to help each College boy when *'it's okay to not be okay'*
- Assist in gathering and analysing data relative to student wellbeing and be a part of pro-active programmes addressing needs highlighted by such data
- In consultation with students, whanau and staff, establish and maintain an agreed understanding of personal excellence and provide the scaffold for this to be achieved as it relates to each College boy
- To support students as appropriate with the provision of high quality counselling services that focus on addressing the complexities of needs of the adolescent boy. Such services to be provided in a manner in keeping with the needs of the individual, maintaining confidentiality as required and being respectful of whanau

Staff

- As appropriate, organise and conduct training sessions for teaching staff and House personnel in matters pertaining to the wellbeing of students
- Work closely with staff in their roles as Housemasters, Deputy Housemasters and Assistant Housemasters through the provision of resources and strategies especially as they relate to wellbeing and Positive Education initiatives
- Be a central figure in College's positive relationship programmes and responses
- Attend and contribute to middle-management meetings in matters relating to student wellbeing e.g. HoDs and Housemasters' meetings
- Be a resource to staff in all matters related to student wellbeing in a general sense and in the implementation of College-wide initiatives in this area

Parents

- Work closely and appropriately with parents and caregivers of College to create and foster a culture that is supportive and caring of every College boy, including information sessions and seminars as appropriate
- Work with individual parents and caregivers in the fundamental role of College Counsellor as it relates to the specific needs of individuals
- Recommend [to whanau] external services according to the needs of individual boys

Other

- Contribute to the co-curricular activities of College as commensurate with a teaching staff member
- Maintain appropriate records of counselling work, ensuring they are kept confidential and secure
- Liaise with external agencies as required (health, judicial and support)
- In consultation with College's Financial Controller, manage budgets as appropriate
- Furnish an annual report as detailed by the Deputy Principal
- Contribute to the development of policies and practices as related to pastoral care within Christ's College e.g. guidance practices, health and wellbeing programmes, parent education programmes
- Engage in ongoing professional development including attending relevant workshops and conferences