# NEWHAVEN COLLEGE



## School Counselling Information Sheet

The Wellbeing team leads the Newhaven College community in promoting wellbeing and provides counselling and social work support to students, parents, and staff.

We primarily provide individual counselling sessions to students on a needs basis. If longer term or additional support is required, we can assist with referrals to external agencies. Anyone can make a referral to the Wellbeing team. Once received, we will assess the level of urgency, make contact with parents/guardians, and discuss with the relevant teachers.

### Confidentiality/Limits to confidentiality

- Within our school environment, non-sensitive information is generally shared with relevant staff via SEQTA.
- Sensitive information will only be shared with consent of the student and/or parents/guardian, unless it relates to duty of care e.g. any concerns for the safety of themselves or others.

### Duty of Care/Mandatory Reporting

• Along with teachers, school counsellors are mandatory reporters. This means that they are required by law to report child abuse, sexual abuse (past or present) and other harms to the Principal and external authorities such as Child Protection and Victoria Police.

#### Consent

- For referrals from Junior and Middle School, parental/guardian consent (verbal or written) is required prior to commencement. Where parents are separated and no Court Orders exist, consent will be required from both parents.
- Senior students are able to provide their own consent, however, in most circumstances, we encourage students to talk with their parents about engaging with the wellbeing team.
- Our duty of care requires that we respond to students presenting in distress or with concerns, where parental/guardian consent has not been gained.

#### Getting in contact

We welcome feedback and input from families regarding our Wellbeing services. Please feel free to contact us with any feedback, questions or concerns.

We can be reached via direct message on SEQTA, email <a href="wellbeing@newhavencol.vic.edu.au">wellbeing@newhavencol.vic.edu.au</a> or via school reception on 5956 7505.

Tahnee BrownEmma GaleChristina AitkenSarah DerhamMon, Tue, Thu, FriTue, WedMon, Tues, Wed