

Guidance Officer Services Fact Sheet

Guidance Officer (Student Wellbeing Package) Fact Sheet

Guiding student social and emotional wellbeing in safe, supportive and inclusive school environments promotes children and young people to be resilient, confident and lifelong learners. Skills in confidence, resiliency and positive relationships are fundamental to student learning outcomes and participation in schooling.

What is a Guidance Officer?

Guidance officers are registered teachers who have a Master degree in Guidance and Counselling or equivalent or have eligibility for psychology registration. They deliver a broad range of services to school community members and contribute to the development of a comprehensive student support and wellbeing program that is responsive to the needs of the school community. They work as part of multi-disciplinary team to address student wellbeing concerns that may be potential barriers to accessibility and engagement in learning.

Guidance Officers adhere to the Code of Ethics and Australian Professional Standards for Teachers as outlined by the Queensland College of Teachers and are bound by all policies and procedures of the Department of Education.

Guidance Services in State Schools

Support offered by guidance officers includes providing advice and counselling on educational, behavioural, vocational, personal, social, family, and mental health and wellbeing issues.

Psychoeducational assessments and career development also form an important part of the work guidance officers undertake to enhance positive educational outcomes and career pathways for all students.

Guidance Officers employed within the student wellbeing package provide support and counselling for referred students with mild to moderate health presentation with a focus on prevention and early intervention. They can help students with:

- Emotional dysregulation
- Engaging with the curriculum
- Personal relationship difficulties
- Stress
- Behaviour
- Career development support
- School attendance
- Family issues

Guidance Officers can help within the school setting by:

working with other wellbeing and school staff to ensure strategies developed for the student can be in place in the classroom and wider community.

- advocating for the referred student during stakeholder meetings.
- assisting with referrals to external agencies.
- liaising with existing external agencies engaged with the student.
- facilitating programs supporting mental health, wellbeing and career planning.
- assisting with student transitions to alternate education programs and reintegration back into mainstream schooling.

Who is Eligible for Guidance Services?

Students who are enrolled in any Queensland state school or registered for an early childhood development program (ECDP), may be eligible to access the guidance officer services if they have diagnosis of mild to moderate mental health concern or have a suspected risk of a mental health concern.

How is the Service Delivered?

Guidance Officers work within education teams with support offered to the student when informed consent is provided. The service may include direct, indirect and whole school with a counselling focus on prevention and early intervention to support student engagement and wellbeing.



Queensland
Government