

Counsellor

Position Title:	Counsellor
Job ID:	261001
Reports To:	Director of Counselling
Nature of Employment:	Fixed-term part time contract (0.4FTE, 41 weeks per year)
Dates:	January 2027 - December 2027

College Overview

Emmaus Christian College is an independent, non-denominational Christian school. We provide high-quality Christian education to children and young people from Christian families who are actively involved in their local church, and to other families who fully support their children's involvement in the Christian teaching, life, and expression of the school.

Our College operates as one school supported by a centralised leadership team, offering a continuous and seamless education pathway from Early Learning to Year 12 across three locations: Brooklyn Park Campus (Early Learning to Year 6), South Plympton Campus (Foundation to Year 12), and the Reynella Early Learning Centre.

Through providing excellence in education, our aim is that young people will:

- **Belong** – to know others and be known
- **Flourish** – to discover and grow into who they are in Christ
- **Think** – to build their knowledge, apply their skills and discern the truth
- **Respond** – to respond to the call of God in their lives

Key Purpose

The role of Counsellor is to provide counselling support to the ELC and Junior School (and at times the Secondary School as required) and provide associated services to the wider school community (e.g. parents and staff) in relation to student issues. The role is an extension to the pastoral care of teachers, referral to community agencies when appropriate, and the Counsellor acts as a resource person in the areas of spiritual, social, emotional and mental wellbeing.

Key Responsibilities

Supporting Student & Family Welfare

- Providing guidance to students on issues concerning their interpersonal relationships, mental health and wellbeing
- Being responsible for the counselling of students with issues that may include anxiety, depression, trauma, family issues, friendships/relationships, self-harm, anger, abuse, sexuality, identity and suicide
- Facilitating wellbeing-related preventative measures in collaboration with teachers (e.g. protective practices, sexual education, mental awareness)

- Assisting the Wellbeing Team, Pastoral Care teachers, behavioural support staff, Head of School and Principal in the provision of student welfare services
- Providing support in cases of bereavement, family breakdown or other crisis and loss situations
- Offering support to families with cases of high absences, late arrivals or school refusal
- Facilitating access to the helping agencies in the community, both church-based and secular
- Being readily available as a point of contact and provide monitoring of support for individual students where this is necessary
- Being a key member of the Critical Incident Team in the College
- Facilitating and attending parent meetings as an extension of the role where appropriate (e.g. helping with parent information seminars, meeting with parents regarding their child's wellbeing, Coffee Connect, being a support person for teachers in parent meetings if requested)
- Facilitating student community groups as an extension of the role, such as lunchtime groups, and having a presence in relevant community events (assembly, some excursions/camps, annual events etc.)

Supporting Staff

- Networking and building relationships with other members of the Emmaus Counselling Team
- Supporting staff in their relationships with students
- Being available to staff, but referring to the Employee Assistance Program engaged by the College to provide on-going confidential support to staff members and their direct family
- Be part of the Student Welfare teams that coordinate and respond to student welfare matters across all year levels
- Availability to meet with Head of Schools to discuss any matters that may affect the wellbeing of students or staff
- Working with the Junior or Secondary School Pastoral Team

General Matters

- Be willing to travel between campuses to offer support to staff and students on a 'needs' basis
- Facilitate appropriate communication with students, staff and parents while observing confidentiality
- Consult with other staff members when applicable
- Maintain appropriate documentation and student records
- Provide written reports/submissions relating to the role as required
- Attend professional development and training required by the College and actively seek opportunities to increase knowledge, experience and skills held
- Maintain parental awareness of the role by contributing articles for the College newsletter, the College magazine, or in any other publication as needed
- Comply with the Code of Ethics established by the Counsellor Support Group and College Executive Principal and endorsed by the College Board of Governors
- Fulfil the expectations of a Mandated Notifier
- Participate in any other related activities as directed by the Line Manager

Selection Criteria

- Be a committed Christian with a deep desire to serve Jesus Christ as Lord.
- An appropriate qualification in Counselling.
- Demonstrated experience in Christian counselling with children (preferably in a school setting).
- Demonstrated confidence and competence in applying a range of counselling modalities appropriate to children and adolescents.
- Evidence of high-level interpersonal skills and experience in working with staff, parents and students.
- Demonstrated ability in problem solving, flexibility, priority setting and time management.
- Knowledge of child protection legislation and mandatory reporting requirements in South Australia.
- Ability to develop and implement proactive student wellbeing programs.
- Experience in working with children and adolescents presenting with a range of mental health and wellbeing issues (e.g., anxiety, depression, grief, trauma).
- Demonstrated commitment to ongoing professional development and reflective practice in counselling.
- Competency in using relevant technology and student management systems for record-keeping and data analysis.
- Excellent written and verbal communication skills, with the ability to convey complex information clearly and sensitively to diverse audiences.
- Demonstrated ability to work collaboratively as part of a multi-disciplinary team.
- A strong commitment to confidentiality and ethical practice.
- Ability to demonstrate initiative and work effectively both autonomously and collaboratively.

College Expectations

All staff are expected to:

- Be a committed Christian with a strong passion for Biblically based Christian education.
- Contribute to the efficient and effective functioning of the team to meet College objectives by demonstrating appropriate and professional workplace behaviours, providing assistance to team members as required and undertaking other key responsibilities or activities as directed by the Executive Principal or Head of Business Services.
- Perform their responsibilities in a manner which reflects and responds to continuous improvement.
- Support the policies, procedures and expectations of the College.

Submitting Your Application

Applications Close: 9:00am, Wednesday 28th October 2026

Applicants should provide:

1. A written application that addresses the selection criteria outlined in the position description [available on our website](#).
2. Curriculum Vitae which provides full personal details, qualifications, previous employment and experience

3. A completed 'Application for Non-Teaching Position Form' available via our website emmauscc.sa.edu.au/about/employment.

Application submissions must be sent to recruitment@emmauscc.sa.edu.au and include all three documents to be considered. In the subject line of your email, please state the Job ID 261001.
For further information, please contact Human Resources on 8292 3888 or recruitment@emmauscc.sa.edu.au.