

Counsellor (Years 7-12)

Position Title:	Counsellor (Years 7-12)
Job ID:	250202
Reports To:	Director of Faith Formation & Wellbeing
Nature of Employment:	Fixed-term contract until end of 2025 (0.6FTE, working weeks exclude school holidays)
Commencement Date:	Immediate start (by negotiation)

College Overview

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

Emmaus Christian College is one school, two campuses. The Brooklyn Park Campus caters for ELC to Year 6. The South Plympton Campus caters for Foundation to Year 12.

Both campuses offer a seamless pathway to Year 12 where children who have been offered a Foundation to Year 6 position at Brooklyn Park, have at the end of Year 6, a guaranteed entry into Year 7 at the South Plympton campus.

Our aim is that our students will graduate as confident and compassionate young adults, well-equipped to take their place in the world. We seek to foster a commitment to Jesus Christ and a passion to live life in such a way as to bring honour and glory to God.

As a Christ-centred College, it is essential that our beliefs are lived and modelled by our staff. Therefore, we seek to employ staff whose lives are a genuine reflection of their Christian faith.

At Emmaus Christian College we want our students to:

- **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 Counsellor (Years 7-12) focusses primarily on the needs of the Secondary School (Year 7-12) students in the College community. Counsellors provide counselling support to the relevant student body across both campuses 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 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.
- Assisting the Wellbeing Team, Pastoral Care/Home Group 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.
- Assuming delegated responsibilities as a part of the College's Critical Incident Team.
- 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 Wellbeing Team, across both the Secondary and Junior School.
- Supporting staff in their relationships with students.
- Supporting staff in the planning and delivery of SEL curriculum and wellbeing resources as directed by the Wellbeing Team Leader.
- 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 in the Junior, or Secondary School.
- Working closely with the Junior, and Secondary school Pastoral Teams.

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.
- Participate in relevant counselling support groups across the Christian Schools Australia network.
- Comply with the Code of Ethics established by the Counsellor Support Group and College 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.

Requirements

- Be willing to travel between campuses to offer support to staff and students on a 'needs' basis.
- The Counsellor will be directly responsible to the Director of Faith Formation & Wellbeing for all school related activities and adhere to school policies.
- The Counsellor is expected to be accessible at set times and places as negotiated with the Director Faith Formation & Wellbeing.
- The College will make the necessary arrangements to facilitate student access and communication with the Counsellor.
- The College will facilitate access to supervision at a frequency which is to be negotiated with the Director Faith Formation & Wellbeing.
- The Counsellor is a member of the school staff and is expected to participate in all staff meetings and school activities.
- Where appointments are requested by students or recommended by staff or parents, the appropriate school-approved process will be followed in order to ensure student accountability.
- The Counsellor will meet regularly with the Director Faith Formation & Wellbeing, and other school counsellors to facilitate transition into the role and for pastoral support.

Selection Criteria

- Be a committed Christian with a deep desire to serve Jesus Christ as Lord.
- Demonstrated experience in Christian counselling with children (preferably in a school setting).
- 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.
- An appropriate qualification in Counselling.

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, Monday 24th February 2025

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 250202.

For further information, please contact Human Resources on 8292 3888 or recruitment@emmauscc.sa.edu.au.