Chaplaincy Services provide spiritual, ethical, and personal support to school communities. SU Qld Chaplains provide positive adult role models for students. Chaplains are present in schools at the invitation of the Principal, in consultation with the local community, and with the support of the P&C Association.

What does a School Chaplain do?

A School Chaplain is a safe person for young people to connect with at school and provides a listening ear, caring presence, and a message of hope. Chaplains run positive, fun activities for students and assist in fostering supportive, caring school communities. Working with other members of the school’s support team, the Chaplain cares for students struggling with issues such as difficult relationships with other children or family members, poor self-esteem, family breakdown, and depression.

The partnership between the school and the Chaplaincy Service, supported by local churches, businesses and community organisations, provides a network of local support and assistance. These positive relationships help young people to face difficult issues, and provide hope, connection, meaning, and purpose.

The Chaplaincy Service is available to everyone in the school community regardless of their religious beliefs.

Who is the Vienna Woods School Chaplain?

Our school chaplain is Carol Cock. She trained as a registered nurse in the 1980’s at RPA in Sydney and then went on to work with young adults in a training and mentoring capacity in Youth With A Mission (an international and interdenominational missionary organisation) for 16 years in Australia and overseas. More recently she has worked extensively with local children in crisis situations. She is also a qualified First Aid trainer. Her qualifications include a Graduate Diploma in Human Studies and a Graduate Certificate in Ministry. Carol is a mother to 5 children, three of which are still at home. She loves bush walking and camping with friends and has a personal goal to do the Milford Track in 2013. She loves being a listening ear for people when they need to chat.

What will Chaplaincy look like at Vienna Woods in 2013?

During 2013 the chaplain will assist with sporting and cultural programs, attend school camps, assist in classrooms, run programs that help students develop social and life skills, and run a lunchtime interest club. Students may request to see the chaplain on an individual basis for support in personal matters. A parental consent notice will then be sent home to obtain permission for any ongoing matters.

Will my child be involved?

Involvement with the Chaplain is entirely voluntary and students choose whether or not they want to be a part of the activities that are offered. Parents will be consulted if their child wishes to be involved in ongoing one-to-one meetings with the Chaplain or in any program or group involving spiritual or ethical content. Parents have the right to refuse permission for their child to be involved in any Chaplaincy activity or event.

How can I contact the Chaplain?

For the remainder of 2012 the chaplain will be here at school on Mondays, Tuesdays and Thursdays; then in 2013 on Tuesdays and Thursdays. If you would like to contact her about any matter you can call the school office on 3820 0777.