



**Brummana High School**

## **Counselling Policy**

The counselling team at Brummana High School, based on the Quaker ethos and the motto “I serve”, believes in nurturing the psychological and social-emotional development of our students regardless of gender, religious background, culture, ethnic identity, and social status.

The mission of the Brummana High School counselling team is to provide a professional and safe setting for the psychological, social-emotional, and developmental support of students as they pursue academic goals and explore personal growth. The counselling team will actively promote the psychological and emotional wellbeing of students and, as a result, will improve their academic and personal functioning.

The counselling service is not a treatment center. Therefore, referrals to professional therapists, psychologists, and special needs specialists within the community will be made to ensure the child or adult receives the appropriate and required support. The counselling team works in cooperation with BHS staff and external agencies. It is recognized that a pupil or staff member may need extra emotional support, beyond the pastoral care provided at any time, and for a multitude of reasons.

The counselling team is a BHS resource. The counselling team aims to support staff and student interactions. The department provides training related to different social-emotional topics for parents and teachers. In addition, the department assists teachers and parents to develop a greater understanding of child/ adolescent development and individual differences.

The counselling team abides by the highest ethical standards and maintains strict confidentiality when disclosing information, which is shared with individuals only within the realm of shared confidentiality. In addition, where there is concern for a child or adult's wellbeing, the team will report to the designated **Point of Reference** or to the Principal as per the counselling procedures.

### **Aim**

The goal of the counselling team is to ensure that the quality of the students' experience at BHS is enriched, and as a result they will be more likely to accomplish learning and personal achievements. The counselling team provides counselling support to a high professional standard and seeks to maintain standards of current best practice and professionalism. The counselling team aims to provide a counselling service that is responsive to the pupils' needs, and thus this service requires a collaborative and cooperative partnership, hence the unity of the team.

### **Review Date**

December 2023

### **Linked Procedures**

Video and Photograph Policy and Procedure  
Child Protection Policy and Procedures  
Pastoral Policy

Date: 28/01/2020: JE/ SH/ SB/ ZF