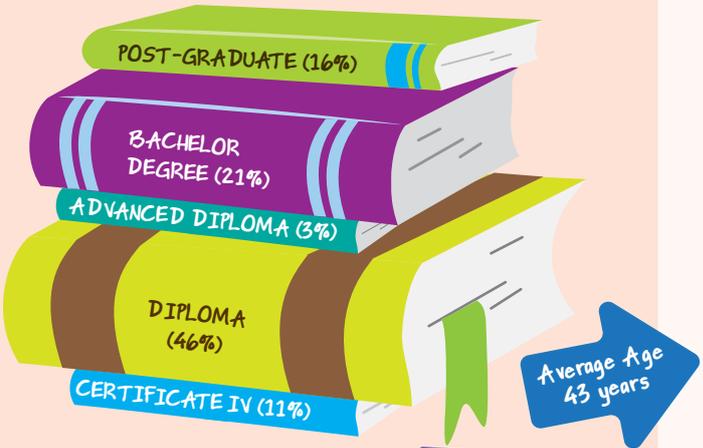


# SCHOOL CHAPLAINCY SNAPSHOT

— SUPPORTING —  
STUDENT WELLBEING IN QUEENSLAND

School chaplains have been providing social, emotional and spiritual support in schools for over 25 years. Throughout 2016 we collected information on their activities and impact and we are pleased to share our findings with you.

## WHO ARE SU QLD CHAPLAINS?

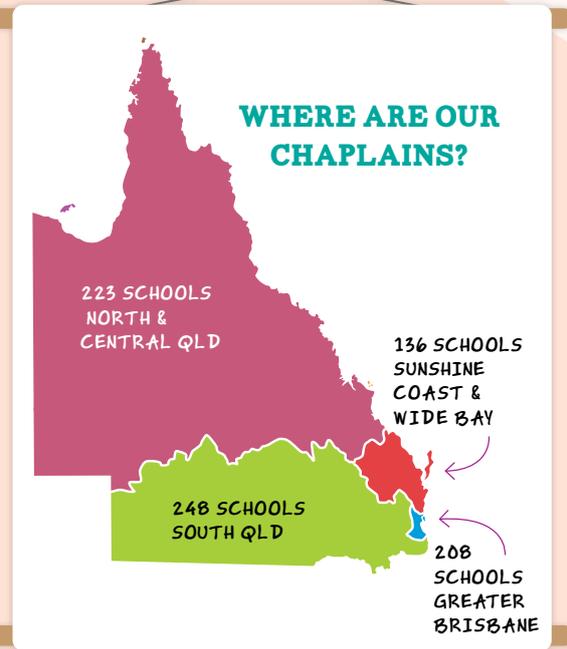


**QUALIFICATIONS**  
All school chaplains meet the minimum qualification standards set by the state and federal governments.

Over 85% of SU QLD chaplains exceed these requirements with qualifications at the Diploma level and above across Youth Work, Human Services, Education and Theology/Ministry.

\* Some percentage totals add up to 101% due to rounding.

## GENERATIONS\*



## CHAPLAINS HAVE A HEART FOR YOUNG PEOPLE.

They spend over 80% of their school break times with students.

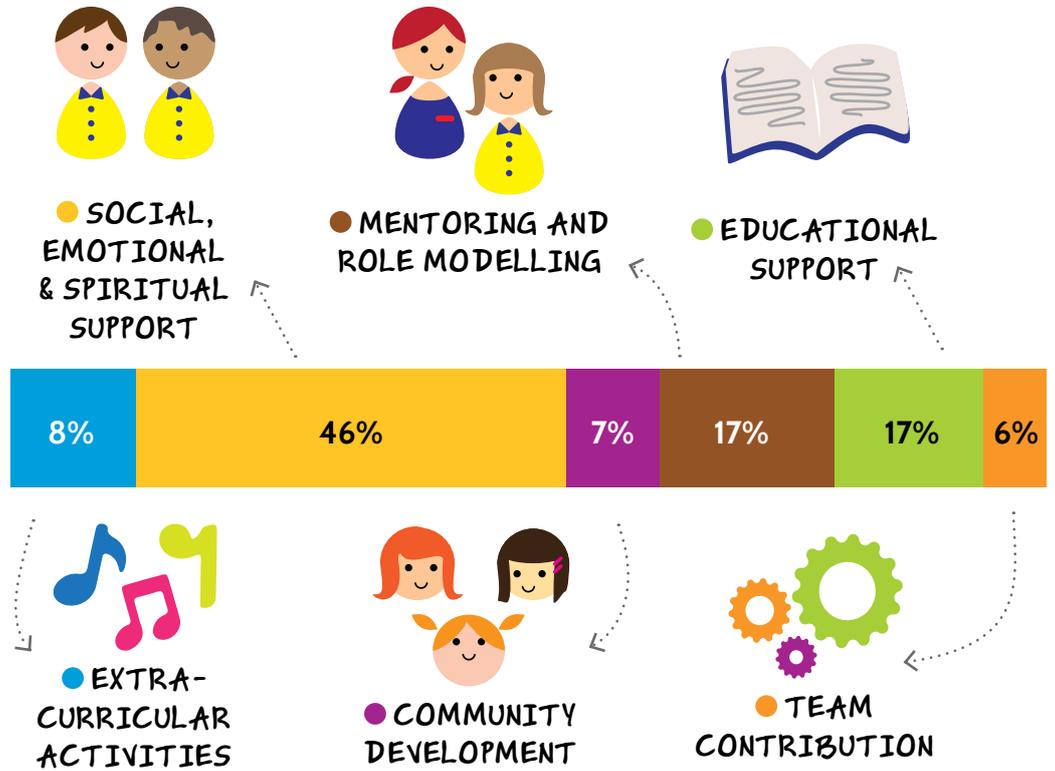
If you're looking for a chaplain at school, chances are you'll find them in the playground, in their chaplaincy space, running chaplaincy activities, or participating in school activities with students.



## SO, WHAT DOES A CHAPLAIN DO?\*

School chaplains provide social, emotional and spiritual support, enhancing a school's overall wellbeing strategy and contributing to their educational goals.

Chaplains promote positive spirituality in all that they do, providing opportunities for students, staff and families to take advantage of spiritual strengths, assets and resources available to them.

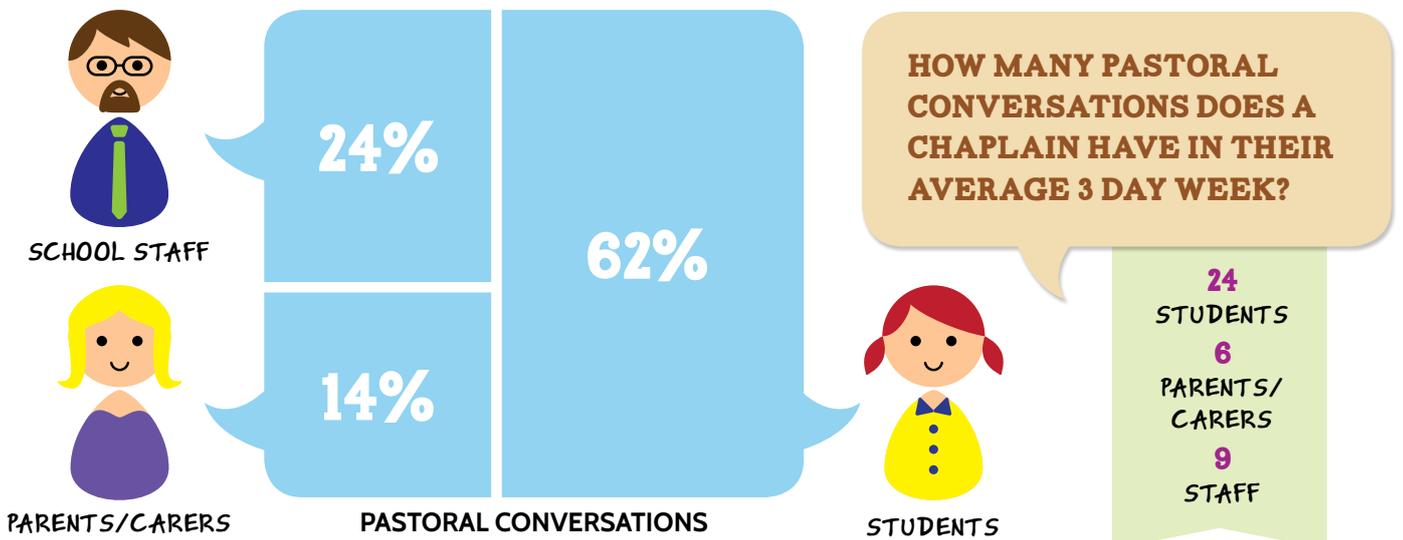


*"Spiritual health is one of the variables that influence an individual's overall health" and school chaplains are asked specifically to provide "support to assist students develop their unique spiritual health in an open and non-judgmental environment."*

*Department of Education and Training, Queensland Government*

## WHO DO CHAPLAINS TALK TO?

School chaplaincy services are available to everyone in schools, and students, staff and families all access them. Chaplains complement other school support services by offering support through pastoral conversations, but not counselling or case management.



## WHAT DO STUDENTS TALK TO CHAPLAINS ABOUT?

Students approach school chaplains for support across a broad range of personal, family, friendship and school issues.

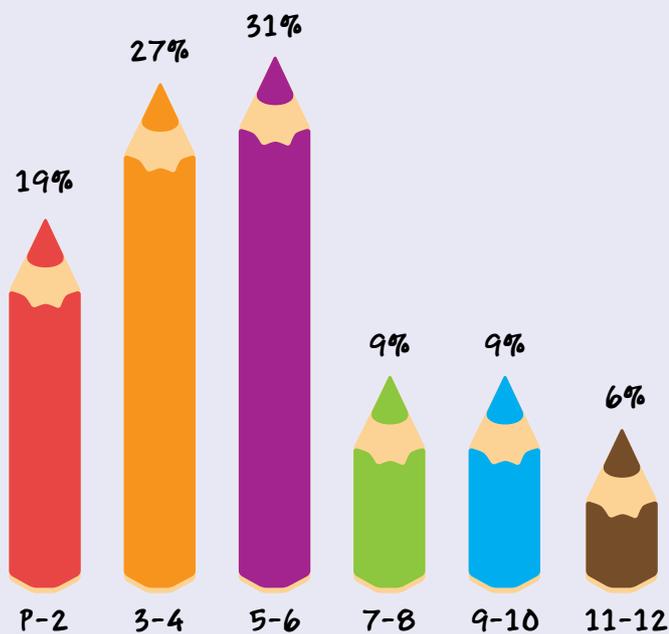
*"Without Steph's help, I don't know where I'd be today... Chappy Steph is someone I can talk to and trust. I can open up to her and feel like I'm not being judged. Our bond is unbreakable."*

Olivia, aged 14

## WHAT YEAR LEVELS ARE THE STUDENTS IN?\*

Over three quarters of pastoral conversations with chaplains take place with primary school students.

They say, "Prevention is better than cure." Chaplains are supporting students in the early stages of their development so they are better equipped to manage issues in their later years.



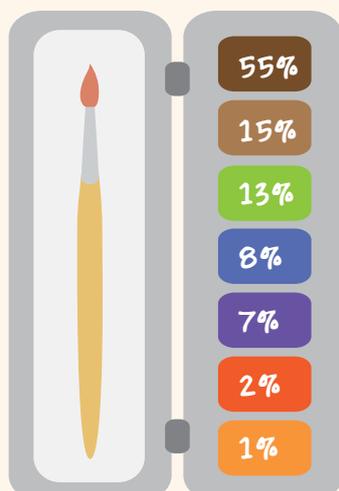
PERCENTAGE OF STUDENT FORMAL CONVERSATIONS PER YEAR LEVEL



## HOW DO CHAPLAINS HELP WITH THESE ISSUES?\*

School chaplains respond to day-to-day issues that students face.

While they are not employed to do counselling or case management, chaplains respond effectively to student issues, including through referral to relevant internal and external agencies.



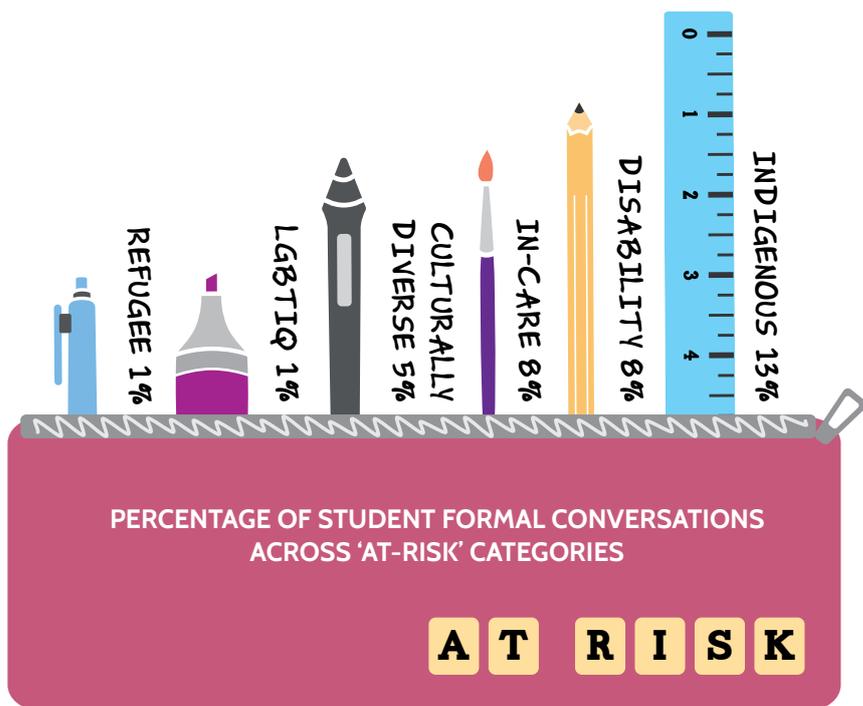
- ONGOING PASTORAL SUPPORT FROM CHAPLAIN
- DEVELOP AN ACTION PLAN FOR STUDENT
- REFERRAL AND REPORTING
- NO FURTHER ACTION REQUIRED
- INFORMATION GIVEN
- ADVOCACY FOR STUDENT
- OTHER

\*Some percentage totals add up to 101% due to rounding.

## DO CHAPLAINS ENGAGE WITH 'AT-RISK' STUDENTS?

While school chaplains are available to everyone, they are particularly interested in supporting individuals and groups who might be considered 'at-risk', increasing their chances of experiencing better life outcomes.

Students who identify as Indigenous, are in-care or have disabilities can experience on-going difficulties across a range of areas as they grow older. Through early intervention activities, school chaplains are supporting at-risk students, increasing their chances of experiencing better life outcomes.



## HOW MANY PROGRAMS DO CHAPLAINS RUN?<sup>2</sup>

In addition to being a caring presence and engaging in pastoral conversations, chaplains also facilitate a broad range of programs and activities designed to promote social, emotional and spiritual wellbeing.

<sup>2</sup>all chaplains across an average term

**396**  
SOCIAL AND  
EMOTIONAL  
PROGRAMS



**347**  
MENTORING  
AND ROLE  
MODELLING



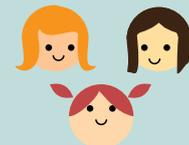
**358**  
BREAKFAST  
PROGRAMS



**257**  
SPIRITUAL  
SUPPORT  
PROGRAMS



**239**  
COMMUNITY  
DEVELOPMENT  
EVENTS AND  
ACTIVITIES



**167**  
EDUCATIONAL  
SUPPORT  
PROGRAMS



**12**  
FUNERALS AND  
MEMORIAL  
SERVICES



**19**  
GRIEF AND LOSS  
PROGRAMS



## FOR MORE INFORMATION

If you would like to download this report or find out more information about how the data was collected, go to [suqld.org.au/snapshot2017](http://suqld.org.au/snapshot2017).

This research was undertaken in partnership with

**mccrindle**  
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