NIRODAH COUNSELLING SERVICE AT SAINT MARTIN OF TOURS PRIMARY SCHOOL

Saint Martin of Tours uses a counselling service provided by NIRODAH. NIRODAH’s primary goal is to provide exemplary services and training to enhance the physical, social and emotional health of people in our community.

NIRODAH’s ADVANCE Program provides an easily accessible service to the community by utilising the Medicare Mental Health Rebate System to place psychologists/social workers into schools and provide a service that is can be accessed by all members of the school community.

With a referral from a GP, psychiatrist or pediatrician stating a Mental Health Plan in place, a client will have access up to ten individual sessions per calendar year through Medicare. Group sessions are also available.

This is at no cost to the family.

NIRODAH offers counselling for individuals with a range of presenting issues such as depression, anxiety, grief/loss, social skills, sleeping difficulties, trauma and many more. The service provides significant benefits to the school and its community:

- School setting is a safe environment for students to access psychological services
- Little disruption to school attendance as the sessions are timetabled within the school day
- Qualified and experienced psychologist or social worker(s)
- Behavioural and emotional issues within the school are targeted with professional guidance
- Commitment to provide communication with the referring doctor, client and/or guardian and school staff
- No travel and time issues for parents

Nicole Francke who will be working in this school fortnightly, is a very experienced psychologist and an associate member of the Australian Psychological Society. She has extensive experience providing counselling services to a broad client group including children, adults and those with special needs. Nicole will begin sessions on Wednesday August 19th, but has very kindly agreed to come to Saint Martins on Monday August 17th to meet the school community at assembly and to be available to any parents for a chat about her role as our School Psychologist.

Other programs that NIRODAH offer include the Respect Ambassador Program (Primary & Secondary) and Be the Hero (Secondary) which aim to educate staff, students and parents about the factors that motivate violent behaviours.

NIRODAH also are facilitators for White Ribbon’s “Breaking the Silence” school based program.

To access this service contact your school wellbeing team. Also check the website www.NIRODAH.comint