

ST. GERARD COLLEGE, MODEL POLICY ON SCHOOL-BASED HEALTH SERVICES

Rationale:

St. Gerard College is committed to each student's intellectual, spiritual, emotional, physical and social development. The College will promote access to primary health care services, i.e., those medical services provided by a general practitioner and nursing staff.

Purpose:

- 1.0 To support parents in caring for their children.
- 2.0 To assist students to understand and take responsibility for their health.
- 3.0 To promote personal health responsibility in accordance with Catholic moral teaching.
- 4.0 To provide primary health care that is easily accessed.
- 5.0 To support the delivery of the Health Curriculum consistent with the Special Character and policies of the College.

Guidelines:

- 1.0 The College will reserve the right to ensure any on-site health providers offer services that are consistent with the Special Character of the College and Catholic moral teaching. The Board of Trustees must approve the selection and appointment of providers and reserves the right to terminate the appointment if this policy is not observed to the College's satisfaction. Appointments and the conditions stipulated in the contract between the College and the providing agent must be ratified by the Board.
- 2.0 The College will respect the right of parents/caregivers to exclude their children from this service.
- 3.0 Patient confidentiality will be respected in accord with the Privacy Act and the Health and Disability Services Consumers' Code of Rights.
- 4.0 Medical Providers will abide by the ethical policies of St. Gerard College.
- 5.0 Recognising the role of parents/caregivers, medical providers will seek and encourage the involvement of parents/caregivers and the family General Practitioner in the services they provide, except where privacy and/or safety requirements prevent it.
- 6.0 In accordance with the teaching of the Catholic Church in matters related to sexuality, the provision of, organisation of, or referral for termination of pregnancy, and the provision of contraceptives will not be offered by the College's health providers.
- 7.0 Counselling and information will be provided in accordance with Catholic moral teaching. In cases where students are assessed to be at risk,

information will be provided to them to ensure their safety. This may include information about other agencies which are known to respect the beliefs of Catholic clients referred to them.

- 8.0 Clinical services will be financed by health funding authorities and not by the St. Gerard College Board of Trustees.
- 9.0 The Board will monitor the provision of health services annually, to ensure that they are meeting their stated aims and objectives and the requirements of this policy.

Procedures:

- 1.0 The College will cooperate with Health Funding Providers to accept a Public Health Nurse and other medical practitioners on site.
- 2.0 The College will provide a suitable and appropriate space for the service.
- 3.0 Providers will always work in close liaison with the College Guidance Counsellor and the Principal, acknowledging the Principal's CEO role in the managing of the school.
- 4.0 Providers will produce an annual written report to the Board of Trustees, through the Principal, summarizing and analysing the usage of the service and the health needs of the students at St. Gerard College. Interim oral reports will be given to the Principal each term, or when deemed necessary by the Board of Trustees.
- 5.0 Medical providers will be responsible for all drugs and any equipment which are brought onto the school premises and will not leave any drugs on the premises.
- 6.0 Complaints will be referred, in the first instance, to the medical practitioner. For specifically medical issues, recourse will then be to the Public Health Service or the contractor of services. For other issues, recourse will be to the Principal and follow the standard complaints policy of the College.

NZCEO
November, 2000.