

ROLE STATEMENT

Role Title:	Chaplain
Location:	As specified on the Chaplain's Contract
Chaplaincy Provider:	SU Northern Territory
Reports to:	SU NT Director and/or SU NT Chaplain Coordinator. School Principal (or appointed school representative)

Purpose of Role

1. The role of a school Chaplain is to provide social, emotional and spiritual support to students, parents and staff, taking into account the specific needs of the school.
2. To work in partnership with the School Leadership and Wellbeing Committee in identifying and responding to school needs, whilst upholding the vision, mission, values and goals of the school.
3. To develop and coordinate children's and youth work in schools in response to the school's needs and priorities and working within the ethos of SU.
4. SU NT Chaplains operate from a framework of Christian belief and personally model and own their own faith position. In the course of respectful dialogue, Chaplains respond to questions and may, in good faith, express views and articulate values consistent with their own beliefs, however Chaplains must not take advantage of their position to proselytise, evangelise, advocate for or denigrate a particular view or faith.

Competencies

- A person who has a mature personal faith and hold values consistent with SU ethos.
- Ability to work as part of a team and work proactively with limited direction.
- Ability to work in a planned and organised manner.
- Effective verbal and written communication skills (inc word processing).
- Excellent people and networking skills.
- The ability to work collaboratively and respectfully with all stakeholders and partners (principal, teaching staff, student support staff, agencies, CDSG, churches, volunteers etc) for the benefit and wellbeing of students.
- The ability to proactively develop relationship in the school community, with students, staff and parent across all age groups and cultural backgrounds, and an understanding of the issues today's children, young people and families are facing
- Experience working in a school environment (advantage)

Minimum Qualifications

In line with NSCP requirements, all SU Northern Territory Chaplains must hold a minimum qualification requirement of:

- a Certificate IV in Youth Work, or
- a Certificate IV in Pastoral Work; or
- an equivalent which must include mental health (CHCMH301C) and making appropriate referrals (CHCCS422B) unit/s of competency.

Key Responsibilities	
1. Professional Development & Personal Growth	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Develop and reflect on knowledge and understanding of core skill areas required of a chaplain. This will include educational theory and practice, working with children and young people, pastoral care, group management and a holistic Christian worldview. ○ To attend relevant school PD events. ○ To attend SU conferences and training events. ○ To maintain a vital personal faith journey, including regular Bible reading, reflection and prayer, and be committed to being in community with other Christians.
2. Investing in people	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Invest in the development of students, such as life skills, leadership, resiliency, as appropriate to the school context. ○ Support students in classrooms (under the direction of the teacher). Particularly those students at risk of disengagement. ○ Provide support and referral to students as directed by the school's welfare team and school leadership. ○ Engage and develop relationships with all members of the school community. ○ Assist and encourage people, when requested, in their exploration of spiritual matters, within NSCP guidelines. ○ Must have an understanding of other faith and non-faith perspectives, and how to work respectfully with, and support, people from other faith and non-faith perspectives
3. Provide support and pastoral care in times of need for the school community	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Be willing and able to spend time with members of the community as needs arise. ○ Showing an understanding of different situations such as difficulties with family, peer relationships etc. ○ Assist in creating a positive and safe school environment. ○ Chaplains are often dealing with complex social and emotional issues and should find satisfaction through engaging and relating with people. Effective Chaplains are motivated by compassion for others, striving to support good outcomes for staff, students and their families.
4. Maintain and Develop programs that assist the school community	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Develop and implement programs and services in response to the needs of the school community. (ie, mentoring, anti-bullying, lunchtime programs, breakfast clubs etc). ○ Act as a role model for students while assisting them to develop positive and supportive relationships.
5. Improve and develop ongoing initiatives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Undertake regular evaluation of current programs and ensure the effectiveness of ongoing initiatives through continual improvement and development of new initiatives. ○ Ensure the work meets ChildSafe guidelines.
6. Extra-Curricular Activities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Participate in general school activities (assemblies, sports days, excursions and school camps), and contribute to building a positive school environment. ○ Develop voluntary activities for students that build a positive school culture and enhance personal wellbeing of students. ○ As a member of the school team, seek to contribute to school events (staff meetings, parent-teacher evenings, awards nights etc) as relevant. ○ Participate in and/or initiate local holiday programs and/or camps.

7. Building Greater Capacity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Creating sustainability and long-term work through the development of volunteers, teams, networks and financial base. ○ To liaise, work with and strengthen relationships with local churches and other children's and youth agencies and organisations. ○ To function as part of, and encourage the growth of a local CDSG - Chaplaincy Development and Support Group (comprising of representatives from the School, SU, Church and local community) with the aim of developing and growing the work on the ground.
8. Ensure that all Govt requirements are being fulfilled in their role as a chaplain	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Know and keep up to date with relevant policies and procedures. ○ Sign and abide by the Code of Conduct for School Chaplains in NT Schools. (These can be found at https://education.nt.gov.au/education/policies/chaplaincy-services-in-schools)

SU NT's Mission

Working with the churches, Scripture Union aims to

- a) make God's Good News known to children, young people and families, and
- b) encourage people of all ages to meet God daily through the Bible and prayer, so that they may come to personal faith in our Lord Jesus Christ, grow in Christian maturity and become both committed church members and servants of a world in need.

Scripture Union NT currently has several key staff, chaplains, over 50 volunteers, three field staff (working in partnership with Wycliffe) who all work towards this aim alongside a variety of interconnected ministries.

Key Relationships

Internal	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ SU Director ○ SU Chaplaincy Co-ordinator (yet to be appointed) ○ SU NT Council ○ Other SU NT Chaplains
External	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ School Principal (or appointed school representative) ○ School staff, particularly the Student Welfare team ○ Local Chaplaincy Development and Support Group ○ Local churches and community groups in the school's area ○ Donors and Supporters ○ Program volunteers

Additional Requirements

SU NT requires that the incumbent to:

1. be able to subscribe to the aims, beliefs and working principles of SU NT.
2. be able to demonstrate a living and personal relationship with Jesus Christ.
3. be able to show strong Christian character evidenced by servant leadership, and valuing of people in general and marginalised people in particular.
4. be connected to a Christian community.
5. be a holder of a current Ochre Card and have a National Police Check conducted.
6. Operate under the Scripture Union ChildSafe framework.

Developed by	Director and Chair
Checked by	N/A
Effective Date	February 2019