



Tuesday, February 7, 2023

Allied Health Professional/NDIS Support Procedures

Allied health professionals and external support personnel for students with additional needs will be meeting with school staff, parents and caregivers over the coming month to update/create Term 1/2023 Support Plans for students.

If in the event that additional student support is required and planned for, and that support *cannot be accessed out of school hours*, additional in-school support from external personnel may be timetabled to commence from Week 7 (Tuesday, March 7). This is the same week that Scripture, Special Religious Education and Parent/Caregiver Helper Groups commence.

Commencing additional support timetables in Week 7 allows volunteers, contractors and health professionals to complete the required applications and mandatory Child Protection and Code of Conduct Training Updates for 2023. It also allows time for our staff to complete the appropriate Departmental screening checks, timetable the visits and ensure that these collaborative sessions best meet each child's curriculum needs, without causing disruption to transition programs and school routine for all students in the class. Sessions must not interrupt teaching and learning programs and are required by the Department to be supervised. As a result, not all support applications may be approved. Additional support programs cannot operate where disruption to classes or other students' learning or supervision would occur. If this is the case, NDIS appointments will need to be provided out of school hours.

If you have any questions regarding allied health professionals or external providers supporting your child at school, or would like to complete the Department's applications and permissions to support your child's NDIS provider in working with your child at school (*where possible*), please contact our Assistant Principal for Inclusive Education, Mrs Erica Bell, via our school email at merimbula-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au

Mrs Bell may also be reached via the school phone number (02) 64951266 between 9am and 11am on Wednesday mornings, during her administration time.