



RATIONALE

Education Queensland is committed to creating an inclusive learning environment that supports the mental health and wellbeing of all students. Students who are mentally healthy learn better and often have better relationships with teachers, peers and families.

Education Queensland recognises that mental health difficulties can interfere with a student's cognitive, emotional and social abilities. Schools are encouraged to engage in curriculum activities that promote and support student's mental health and wellbeing, and support students and parents to access clinical providers where necessary. Employees including - Teachers, Principals, Guidance Officers, Behaviour Specialists, Youth Support Coordinators, School Based Youth Health Nurses, Chaplains and Regional Contact Officers (Mental Health) support students with mental health difficulties in a variety of ways when their learning, achievement and participation in education is being affected.

GUIDELINES

If you suspect or have evidence of a student's mental health issues

1. Document your concerns
2. If the teacher has a reasonable suspicion that a student in their care has a mental health difficulty:
 - a. discuss initial concerns with the individual student and take appropriate action to support a child in need of protection from harm, or the risk of harm - [SMS-PR-012: Student Protection](#)
 - b. discuss concerns with parents unless grounds exist to reasonably suspect the child is in need of protection from harm, or the risk of harm - [SMS-PR-012: Student Protection](#) discuss concerns with the [nominated staff member](#)
 - c. refer students and parents to [appropriately qualified staff](#) or clinical care providers. In our case the G.O
 - d. inform the principal and/or nominated staff member where the teacher has a reasonable suspicion that a student has a [mental health difficulty](#)
 - e. participate in the development, implementation and periodic review of the [Negotiated Education Plan](#) for students known to have a [mental health difficulty](#) as necessary

Nominated Person G.O Mary Williams
Appropriately Qualified Person G.O Mary Williams