

REQUEST to Provide Therapy on School Grounds

On occasion, parent(s) may ask St Francis of Assisi Primary School to allow an external therapist to provide support or therapy to their child (the student) on school grounds (Request). These Requests are made via a completed Request to provide therapy on school grounds form (the Request Form).

St Francis Primary School is committed to supporting students, and their families, to obtain optimal benefit from the opportunities offered by external therapists. Consistent with this commitment, all schools are encouraged to accommodate students and their parent(s) exercising choice and control in relation to therapeutic support, where practical to do so.

However, there are a number of relevant factors that must be considered when determining whether or not it is possible for the school to agree to such requests.

For the principal (or nominee) to consider such requests, external therapists and parent(s) making a request for access to school premises must:

- complete the attached **Request Form** and return it to the school office
- have the student's parent(s) sign the attached **Parent Consent Form**
- provide the completed forms, and any other relevant documents to the school at the time of making the request.

The Principal will not consider any such request until the Request Form and Parent Consent Form are completed and provided to the school.

When the completed Request Form and Parent Consent Form are provided, the principal will consider all relevant information, and endeavour to respond to the request within 10 working days.

Should you have any queries regarding the Request Form or Parent Consent Form, please contact the principal.

CONTACT: All enquiries or communication regarding therapy or students should be directed to Belinda Lingham, Learning Inclusion Leader blingham@sfwodonga.catholic.edu. Teachers should not be directly contacted by external therapists.

Administrative questions should be directed to Christine Nelson, cnelson@sfwodonga.catholic.edu.au Administration and Enrolment Officer.

TO BE COMPLETED BY EXTERNAL THERAPIST

Name of Therapist	
Company	
Company address	
Phone number	
Email address	
Qualifications held by therapist	
Professional registration details of therapist	
Is the therapist an NDIS registered practitioner? (Y / N)	
Details of STUDENT	
Name of student	
Year level / Teacher of student	
Are there particular family, social or practical circumstances that are relevant to the request?	
Details of the Proposed Therapy	
Purpose of the proposed therapy	
Proposed date / time that therapy will be provided	
Will the student be withdrawn from class time for the therapy to be provided?	

<p>Proposed duration and frequency of therapy (e.g. one hour, weekly / daily / monthly)</p>	
<p>Proposed location of therapy (classroom / other area of school) - private/closed rooms are not available due to Child Safety requirements</p>	
<p>Proposed aims and benefits of the therapy being provided at school / in school time</p>	
<p>Is the therapy time-dependent? If so, provide details For example, is the therapy a medical support that must take place at certain regular intervals each day?</p>	
<p>Attach relevant documents</p>	
<p>Please attach proof of a satisfactory Working with Children Check for the therapist</p>	<p>Tick to confirm the relevant documents are attached</p>
<p>Please attach a signed copy of the St Francis of Assisi Child Safety Code of Conduct</p>	
<p>Please attach certificates of currency for the following insurances held by the therapist / Company / Incorporated Association:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • public liability insurance • professional indemnity insurance 	<p>Tick to confirm the relevant documents are attached</p>
<p>Acknowledgment by external therapist</p>	
<p>Print name</p> <p>Signed</p>	<p>Date</p>

PARENT CONSENT FOR EXTERNAL THERAPY AT SCHOOL

This Parent Consent Form records consent to:

- a) the external therapist sharing important and relevant information about the student to the school (as set out in the Information-sharing section below)
- b) the external therapist providing support or therapy to the student, on school premises (if and when the principal agrees to the Request).

The Parent Consent form can be signed by any of the following people:

- a person with **parental responsibility** for “major long term issues” as defined in the *Family Law Act 1975* (Cth)
- a person authorised to make health decisions for the student under the *Children Youth and Families Act 2005* (Vic).
- an adult student
- an informal carer
- a mature minor

Sharing student information

Schools must comply with the Victorian privacy law when collecting and otherwise managing personal and health information about students and their families (**student information**).

The school requires that external therapists provide support or therapy to a student at school to share important and relevant information about the student with the school. The school requires this information to optimally educate and support the student and fulfil important legal obligations.

This means that the external therapist must provide student information to the school as follows:

- information about the student's disability and their needs - in the way/s and at the times specified by the principal; and
- student information that relates to reasonably foreseeable risk to anyone. This includes, for example, information that the student has emotional, wellbeing or self-harm issues; displays aggressive or violent behaviours; is a victim or perpetrator of bullying, assault or age-inappropriate sexualised behaviours.

The principal and other school staff will only share this information with other staff who 'need to know' to enable the school to educate or support the student or fulfil legal obligations. For more information about this see the Schools' Privacy Policy, which also describes how you may seek to access and/or correct information held by the school about the student. Alternatively, please feel free to contact our school to discuss this further.

Your consent

I confirm that I have read this Consent Form and:

- I support the Request for the external therapist to provide support or therapy as described in the Request form, to my child (named below) at school.
- I understand that if the principal agrees to the Request, the external therapist must share information about my child with the school, as described above.
- If I wish to withdraw my consent for the external therapist to provide support or therapy to my child, I can do so by contacting the school.

TO BE COMPLETED BY PARENT(S)*

Student name:		Date of birth:	
Student's school:		Year level:	
Proposed Therapist:			
CONSENT of PARENT, GUARDIAN, CARER or MATURE MINOR*			
Name:		Signature:	
Relationship to student		Date signed:	
Phone no & email			

*Who may sign this form?

- Any of the following people may sign this form:
 - a person with **parental responsibility** for "major long term issues" as defined in the *Family Law Act 1975* (Cth)
 - a person authorised to make health decisions for the student under the *Children Youth and Families Act 2005* (Vic).
 - An adult student
- If neither of the people described in (1) are available, an **informal carer** may sign this form. An informal carer is a relative or other responsible adult with whom the student lives, and who has day-to-day care of the student. Informal carers should provide to the school a signed 'Informal Carer' statutory declaration. Parent(s) can contact the school for assistance in obtaining a copy of this document.