



Mental Health Practitioner Informed Consent Record

The purpose of this form is to provide you with information to help you decide if you want to accept the mental health services that are being offered to you or your child.

Pastoral care is the commitment of all staff to the wellbeing of each student. While pastoral care and support is provided by CEWA staff as part of their work, at times a range of specific mental health and wellbeing services may be offered. These services are offered by specialist staff including counsellors, psychologists, and social workers (in this document referred to as a "mental health practitioner" [MHP]).

Mental Health Services may include:

- individual or group counselling;
- education programs to build resilience, wellbeing, mental health or social and emotional skills;
- assessments including mental health, learning and cognitive, or behavioural assessment; and
- interventions to help support social and emotional capacity, mental health, learning, engagement, or behaviour change.

Consent means that you agree to a specific mental health service being provided.

Before you give consent, you should talk with your MHP about the mental health service that is being offered, what is planned, the possible outcomes, and, about how long (how many sessions) you should expect.

You do not have to use this service, and you can change your mind at any time - including after it has started.

Purpose of collecting and holding information

As part of providing this service, your MHP will need to collect and record relevant personal information. This will include information that is personal and sensitive. Information gathered will be stored in line with privacy laws and CEWA policies. Only information that is needed will be collected, and the information collected will only be used for this purpose – to plan, support and guide the mental health service you are accessing.

Consequence of not providing personal information or consent

If you do not want personal information to be collected and used in this way, then it may not be possible to provide the mental health service being offered. If you do not wish to use the mental health service being offered, this may have a negative impact on your (or your child's) wellbeing, engagement, or mental health. There may also be other consequences, and your MHP can talk to you about this. There are also often alternative services, and your MHP can discuss these with you.

Access to client information

You have rights to access information about you and you may ask to see your personal information. Your MHP can talk to you about this and can talk about different ways to access that information.

Confidentiality

While the content of what you (or your child) might say and the information gathered during this mental health service will be protected, other CEWA staff will need to know some details. This includes class teachers, pastoral care leaders, other professionals, and, school leaders (such as the Principal, Deputies etc) who will generally be aware that you are accessing these services even if they are not aware why or all of what you say.

Disclosure of personal information

Information gathered as part of the mental health service can be shared with your permission.

It can also be shared with another *MHP* within Catholic Education WA (CEWA) if sharing the information is related to why the information was collected. An example of this is to continue the mental health service with another MHP at this school or another CEWA school following a change of school.



Usually information about you cannot be shared with others unless you allow this, however in some situations your information can be shared without your permission.

Confidential information you have provided can be shared **without** your permission if:

- a court orders it, or sharing is allowed or required (such as the mandatory reporting of sexual abuse); or,
- your MHP believes that not sharing the information would place you, your child or another person at serious risk to life, health or safety; or,
- your MHP believes that not sharing the information would cause a major negative impact on the welfare or wellbeing of you or another student or group of students.

If you have any questions, please speak to the MHP whose name appears below, or the CEWA Psychology, Safety and Wellbeing Team on 9380 1800.

Consent

- I understand the information within this Consent Form.
- I understand the potential benefits and consequences of both accessing and refusing this service.
- I have had the nature of the service explained to me, and had my questions answered.
- I am aware of privacy, information gathering and confidentiality (and the limits).
- I agree to the above conditions for mental health support services provided the CEWA MHP at my school.

Name of MHP:	Consent given verbally: Yes / No Reason for verbal consent:
Parent/ Guardian 1:	
First Name:	Last Name:
Contact Number:	Relationship to Child:
Signature:	Date:
Parent/ Guardian 2 (if applicable):	
First Name:	Last Name:
Contact Number:	Relationship to Child:
Signature:	Date:
Student Details	
Student Name:	School:
Date of Birth:	Teacher and/or Class/Year
Student Signature (if appropriate):	Date:

Only a person with parental responsibility, a legal guardian or legal carer can sign this form. In some cases (such as when Custody Orders are in place) BOTH parents are required to sign. A new partner, de-facto parent or step-parent cannot sign this form. A child's parent or guardian can give consent on the child's behalf unless the child has the capacity to give informed consent (see WA MH Act, section 302(3)).