

Part of the Queensland Government's \$100 million Student Wellbeing Package



GPs in Schools Pilot

Overview for Pilot schools

To provide students enrolled in Pilot schools with access to free, confidential health and mental health support at school.

Service delivery model

GPs will:

- ❖ Provide a service to students enrolled in Pilot schools one day per week, during school terms.
- ❖ Provide students with the majority of services that would be provided by a GP in the community, including management of physical health, mental health, and sexual and reproductive health issues.
- ❖ Provide a nurse to support the school-based clinic.
- ❖ Bulk-bill students through Medicare, at no additional cost for students and families.

Core responsibilities

School:

- Clear and ongoing consultation and communication with parents and the wider community.
- Actively and regularly promote GP to students and encourage them to access the service.
- Support students to attend scheduled GP clinic appointments.
- Support GP to become an embedded part of the school community.
- Participate in state-wide evaluation of Pilot.
- Ensure delivery of the GP service in the school complies with relevant legislation, policies and procedures.

Program Lead:

- Establish a fit-for-purpose GP clinic on school grounds.
- Actively maintain a positive relationship with the GP and their base clinic.
- Raise awareness and promote understanding of the clinic within the wider school community.
- Facilitate collaboration between the GP and the school's existing health and wellbeing services.
- Manage a robust and reliable complaints management process.

GP:

- Employ a Clinic Nurse to ensure school-based clinic runs efficiently and delivers a high-quality service to students.
- Work with school to fit out school-based clinic with necessary equipment and consumables.
- Provide ongoing supply of consumables.
- Manage record keeping and bulk-billing of consultations.
- Manage infection control.
- Participate in state-wide evaluation of the Pilot.

Financial support for Pilot schools

- \$20,000 to **contribute** to infrastructure changes required to build a fit-for-purpose clinic for the GP.
- Funding to employ a 0.2 FTE Administrative Coordinator (AO6) one day per week to assist with scheduling appointments and managing the clinic waiting area.

GP Clinic – physical requirements

- Easy access for students.
- Close proximity to guidance officers, school nurse and wellbeing team.
- Wheelchair access.
- Close proximity to student bathrooms.
- An inviting waiting area with ample room.
- A GP consultation room with:
 - adequate soundproofing and privacy
 - hand basin with hot and cold water
 - hardwearing, water-resistant flooring.

Evaluation

Pilot schools, students and GPs are required to participate in evaluation of the Pilot. Through surveys and clinic and school data, the impact of providing a GP service will be assessed on students':

- level of engagement with a GP
- health and mental health
- readiness to engage at school.

The extent to which the school and the wider community support the implementation and ongoing delivery of the GP service provided in schools will be at the core of the Pilot's success.

Planning for, establishing and providing a GP service at your school

1. Implementation Planning

Commencing October 2021



Confirm school GP

- Confirm availability of the school GP and the Clinic Nurse.
- Confirm GP's and Clinic Nurse's registration details via [AHPRA online Register of Practitioners](#).



Establish contract with GP/base clinic

- Finalise and sign contract.

Contract template provided by Central Office.



Finalise location for GP clinic and waiting room

- Formalise building plans.
- Procure professionals to carry out work.
- Order necessary large clinic equipment and furniture.

Infrastructure checklist provided by Central Office.



Liaise extensively with school community

- Present information via a range of communication channels (e.g. school assemblies, parent-teacher evenings, newsletters, etc).
- Collaborate with P&C, School Council.

Communications pack provided by Central Office.



Formally appoint a Program Lead

- Knowledge of and interest in students' health and wellbeing.
- Established, positive relationships with students and the school community.
- Autonomy to make decisions.
- Capacity to support the clinic opening and its ongoing operation.



Complete and submit your school's Implementation Plan

- Provide sufficient detail in Implementation Plan.
- Submit Implementation Plan to GPs in Schools team by 3 November 2021.

Implementation Plan provided by Central Office.

2. Preparing for clinic opening

Allow sufficient time prior to service delivery commencement



Confirm clinic day of the week

- Communicate with students, families and the school community, well in advance of commencement of school clinic.



Liaise extensively with GP and base clinic to prepare for commencement of service delivery



Respond to questions or concerns from school community



Recruit, select and appoint an Administrative Coordinator



Orient GP to school context

- Provide GP with contextual information about needs of students and families in your community.
- GP to attend onboarding provided through Central Office.



Install necessary equipment and consumables for GP clinic

Clinic checklist will be provided by Central Office.



Establish appointment booking system ensuring:

- Optimal student access.
- Confidentiality and privacy.



Understand evaluation process and requirements

- Participate in collection of baseline data.

Surveys will be provided by Central Office through Survey Manager.

3. Ongoing operation of clinic

All clinics operating by May 2022



Ensure effective ongoing service delivery

- Work with GP and school community to support service and identify areas for improvement.
- Escalate issues or concerns to the Principal.
- Manage a robust and reliable complaints management process.
- Liaise with students to ensure clinic is meeting their needs.



Support GP to deliver effective service

- Maintain strong lines of communication with the GP.
- Support GP to engage with "GP community of practice."
- Work with schools' existing Student Wellbeing Team to support GP's needs.

Regular "GP community of practice" sessions will be facilitated by Central Office, in partnership with Children's Health Queensland.



Monitor appointment booking system

- Make improvements as required to ensure:
- Optimal student access
 - Confidentiality and privacy
 - Minimisation of school disruption.



Ensure adherence to workplace health and safety standards

- Ensure clinic adheres to operational standards, including cleaning and disposal of waste.



Continue participation in Pilot evaluation

- Facilitate data collection at identified timepoints.



Although the Principal and all school staff will support the implementation and ongoing delivery of the school's GP service, the Program Lead has primary responsibility for supporting the clinic and the GP.

