



Dear Parents/Caregivers

Purpose of school psychology service at Hilliard Christian School

Hilliard is committed to providing a caring and supportive environment for all students and their families, as well as to all staff. The school psychology service is provided onsite and exists to provide counselling to support students to both maximise their wellbeing at school, and maximise their academic flourishing.

School psychology services may include:

- Direct evidence-based psychotherapy/counselling with students
- Consultation with teachers, educational support staff and AGS leadership
- Consultation with parents/caregivers
- Implementing schoolwide wellbeing programs

Referral to the psychology service and informed consent.

Students may self-refer to the psychology service, They may be referred by parents/caregivers or by staff.

This document serves as informed consent for parents/caregivers of students regarding the AGS psychology service. A brief and age appropriate informed consent form will be provided to students who engage with the service which contains information about the service, limits to confidentiality, and record keeping.

Hilliard Christian School has implemented an 'Opt-Out Consent Policy' with regard to services provided through the AGS psychology service, meaning that if you do not wish your child to receive psychological services; you must inform the school either verbally or in writing. Consent for services provided by the psychology service is entirely voluntary, and consent may be withdrawn at any time either verbally or in writing. If a student and/or their parent/caregiver is considering withdrawing their consent for services, it is recommended that a discussion be held first with the school psychologist and other relevant staff member. If, at a future date the services of the school psychologist are required, a new referral may be made and a consent form will be given to the student and/or their parent/caregiver to sign.

Students who are 16 years and older may legally self-consent to receiving services through the psychology service without their parent's knowledge or consent.