

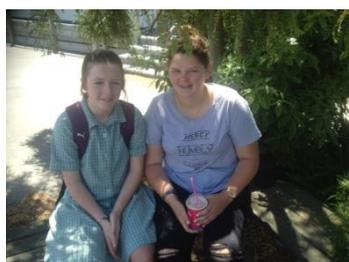


Youthworkers in AGHS Term Two – 2016 Report

Term two has been a good term for us youth workers working in Avonside Girls High School. We have been kept busy this term, meeting with many students from different year levels who have needed some additional support to face some of the challenges that have come their way. As Youth Workers we



have provided support for these students through developing a trusting relationship with them where they can be respected and heard. When a student feels as though they can trust us we are then able to help them to process some of life's challenges and assist them in brainstorming ways of problem solving situations that are impacting them. As mentors we also try to teach students some skills and strategies which may help them to better cope with some of the difficult things they are facing.



The reason we have focussed most of our energy on mentoring in term two is because of some of the feedback we gathered from staff whom were concerned that there have been many students struggling with different life

events this year. We were aware that there was a shortage of staff in the pastoral care team, so decided as a team that we would prioritise picking up more students for mentoring to help fill this need in the school.

To assist us in our mentoring, Tanya Phillips developed a shared document in which we can use to communicate with staff over who we were mentoring and how often. It

is still in its early stages but means we can communicate about how mentoring is going and work out if students need extra support or whether they don't really need mentoring anymore. Staff members can access this document and leave comments regarding how they think students are going as well as adding new students whom they think could do with some mentoring to our waiting list.

Or though the mentoring that we provide at Avonside is our main focus, you may also see us hanging out with students at lunch times, coaching a sports team, participating at a camp, or being involved in a school event or a student run group.

We try to get involved in different aspects of the school as much as we can so that we can meet and build connection with a variety of students. If you have something that you would like us to assist with in the school please let us know as we may be able to use some of our hours to help.



At the end of term two, we youth worker also attended the 24/7 youth work national hui. This hui was a great chance for us AGHS youth workers to connect with over two hundred other school youth workers from throughout New Zealand and hear

about what they do in their schools. At this hui we were also given the opportunity to attend many training workshops presented by a range of knowledgeable experts with years of experience working with youth. These training workshops equip us with tools which help us to best work with young people in a way that encourages and

flourishes the potential that each individual student has. This time that we set aside to attend the national youth work hui was a good time for upskilling ourselves as well as reflecting upon the term ahead. As we reflected we developed some team goals for term 3, they are as followed...

Term 3 Goals...

- To use the mentoring shared document more to communicate who we are meeting with and how it is going.
- To begin a girls group for some of the girls that have been referred to us with the aim of teaching these girls some skills that will better help them cope with lifes challenges, while also developing confidence.
- To get involved with any y8 transition events that the school run.
- To keep building relationships with school staff.
- To meet together more often as a youth work team.

