Ms Victoria Bamford is the secondary counsellor for Year 8 -12 and works 2.5 days per week.

The secondary counsellor works closely with the leaders of the Middle and Senior School and the School Chaplain to enable students to achieve to their fullest potential. Student well-being and developing flexible learning options for students in conjunction with the school leaders are key priorities for the student counsellor.

The student counsellor manages the ICAN program for Y8-12 and monitors the attendance and progress of the students involved as part of a team of case workers and the student leaders.

Part of the counsellor’s job is to support students who have problems or issues which have arisen at school, home or in the community. The counsellor’s role is to advise and direct students to either external agencies if needed or to advise and negotiate resolutions to problems.

Pastoral Care is a program within the school which is being developed, managed and expanded by the counsellor. Pastoral Care is about improving students’ sense of well-being and sense of belonging with in the school community. Vital aspects of the curriculum such as ‘Keeping Safe - Child Protection Curriculum’, ‘The National Drug Strategy’, ‘SHINE’ (sexual health program) and Mental Health are all components of the Pastoral Care sessions.

External agencies are used to run programs in the school to add extra impact to issues such as ‘Anger Management’, ‘Healthy Eating and Body Image’, Self Esteem’ etc. It is the counsellor’s role to organise these events in conjunction with the Chaplain and school leaders.

Keeping staff aware of current issues and providing training and development are also part of the counsellor’s role. Setting up easy access to resources on the intranet and displaying and sharing new resources is a key component of the counsellor’s responsibility to staff.

Overall, the counsellor is responsible for assisting students and staff in order to improve the well-being of the whole school community.