





Student Wellbeing Professionals can provide direct support to students, and their families who have been referred for support and intervention for mild to moderate mental health needs.



➤➤➤ Social Workers are skilled professionals well-equipped to support student wellbeing.

The Department of Education is committed to Inclusive education, meaning that children and young people across Queensland, from all social, cultural, community and family backgrounds, and of all identities and all abilities are able to:

-  **attend** their local state school or education centre and be welcomed.
-  **access and participate** in a high-quality education and fully engage in the curriculum along-side their similar-aged peers.
-  **learn** in a safe and supportive environment, free from bullying, discrimination or harassment.
-  **achieve** academically and socially with reasonable adjustments and supports tailored to meet their learning needs.

### Social Workers adhere to a Code of Ethics

that are informed by principles of the inherent dignity of humanity, human rights, and social justice, we work with, and on behalf of, individuals, families, groups and communities to:

- enhance their individual & collective wellbeing & social development.
- resolve personal and interpersonal problems
- improve and to facilitate engagement with the broader society
- address systemic barriers to full recognition and participation
- protect the vulnerable from oppression and abuse.

For more information about the Social Work Code of Ethics

go to: [www.aasw.asn.au](http://www.aasw.asn.au)

## ➤➤➤ Student Wellbeing Professionals

As part of the Queensland Government's \$106.7 million Student Wellbeing Package, we are increasing the number of wellbeing professionals working in state schools and education regions across Queensland.

By June 2024, employment of additional wellbeing professionals through this initiative will ensure every Queensland state school student has access to support for their wellbeing at school.



Social workers connect students and their families with support services and resources in the community to support their personal and social wellbeing.

## What can Social Work Offer?

Social Workers can assist students wellbeing and mental health outcomes with psychosocial assessments identifying barriers (at a personal, family, social or school level) to learning and engagement, risk assessments, students & family counselling, advocacy, education and resourcing, consultation, referrals and crisis interventions. Social Workers can co-ordinate support for student with multiple and complex needs including liaison with external organisations.



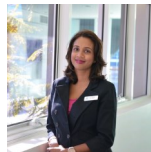
A school-based Social Worker may also assist young people by developing and implementing therapeutic group work, prevention and early intervention programs, person or social skills education groups for students as well as assist with parent education programs and events.

## Our School Social Worker

**Renu Bhalla is our School Social Worker.**

Renu has a long history of working with children, adolescents and families, working in both private and public sectors in Australia and the US.

Renu has experience working with a range of students to support mental health and wellbeing, social skill development, grief and loss and psycho-education. Renu also enjoys working with families to provide parenting support that is grounded in evidence-based practice.



School-based Social Workers work as a **link between school, home, and community**, providing counselling, advocacy, resources, and crisis management to students and families.

Renu works within a psycho-social framework that seeks to empower students and their families to actively engage in their school community. If you would like to know more about the services our school-based Social Worker provides, please speak with Renu or the administration team. You can also email Renu at [rbhal1@eq.edu.au](mailto:rbhal1@eq.edu.au)

Renu works at Rainworth SS on **Tuesdays & Wednesdays of odd weeks**. Please send referrals to SST or Miranda and Renu.

## Working with school support services ...

Queensland state schools have long had specialised student support professionals working alongside classroom teachers to support the diverse learning needs of individual students.



The addition of Student Wellbeing Professionals bolsters the support available to students and school communities, offering a range of services that work in conjunction with Guidance Officers, Speech Pathologists, Occupational Therapists, Psychologists, School Nurses & Police Officers, Community Education Counsellors, Chaplains & Youth Support Coordinators. These specialist staff work within an Inclusion model to support mental health and wellbeing as well as diverse learning needs.