Who is the Gooburrum School Chaplain?

Hi! I am Steve Parker the school Chaplain Gooburrum - sometimes known as, Chappy, Happy Chappy or even Mr Chappy. I am married to my wife Linda and have two children and four step children. I enjoy camping, fishing and relaxing around a BBQ with friends and family.

In my role as Chaplain I offer pastoral care and support to the school community in times of personal/family crisis, grief, loss, life and spiritual issues. I am here to be a positive role model, listening ear and friend for the students and family members. I can usually be found in a classroom somewhere helping out, attending school camps, assisting with sporting and cultural programs, running programmes that help students develop social and life skills, playing hand ball or just hanging out with students and staff.

Involvement with the Chaplain is entirely voluntary and students choose whether or not they want to be a part of the activities that are offered. Parents will be consulted if their child wishes to be involved in ongoing one-to-one meetings with the Chaplain or in any programme or group involving spiritual or ethical content. Parents have the right to refuse permission for their child to be involved in any Chaplaincy activity or event.

I am available on **Tuesdays 7.30 am – 3.00 pm** by contacting the office on (07) 4159 9296

The federal government has made a significant contribution to local school chaplaincy services through the National School Chaplaincy Program funding. This has enabled school chaplaincy services to increase by 150% in the last few years. School chaplaincy has now established itself as a vital component of school welfare services. A recent research study on school chaplaincy found that 98% of school Principals who currently have chaplains in their school want this to continue.

I very much look forward to meeting you at Gooburrum State School,

Chappy Steve