

### CSA Policy Priority

The spiritual and emotional health of young people is a national priority concern.

The programme has provided valuable resources for the pastoral care of students in all settings.

It should be continued.

### Labor Policy

The Government has unveiled a proposed extension and expansion of the program. The Government has committed to continue funding the existing 2,700 schools already benefiting from the services of a chaplain for a further three years, until the end of 2014.

In addition the Government indicated it would fund an additional 1,000 chaplains through a new round of funding for those schools not already within the scheme.

The guidelines for the new round will be informed by the consultation process and the review, but it will support innovative models so rural and remote schools can benefit from the services of a chaplain. This could include developing cluster models or pooled funding so a chaplain or pastoral care worker in a rural area has sufficient funding to service a number of schools.

The additional round will also focus on disadvantaged school communities, ensuring they are provided with the necessary support to benefit from a chaplain.

### Coalition Policy

The Coalition has undertaken to continuing the programme and has *'committed \$165 million to continue the School Chaplaincy program over the forward estimates'* ensuring that it continues until at least 2014.