Struggles come in all shapes and sizes...

Steve is happy to talk to you about any issues of concern:
◊ Loneliness
◊ Peer Pressure
◊ Bullying
◊ Family struggles
◊ Relationship tensions
◊ Homelessness
◊ Spirituality
◊ Abuse
◊ Addiction
◊ Anxiety
◊ Fear
◊ Grief/Loss
◊ Good News!

Our Values
The chaplaincy service is provided without discrimination and is available for all students, staff and associated families regardless of race, religion, belief or values.

We respect the individual and treat all matters raised with the strictest confidence and privacy. We promise to do so without judgement.

Some matters need to be reported and these will be outlined with all enquirers at the commencement of any sessions upon request.

Contacts
Appointments with the chaplain can be made by advising the school Administration.

Phone: (07) 5569 1555

Steve Mead
I am Steve Mead. I am married to Karen and we have three grownup children and at the moment, I have three Grandsons. We moved to Australia 9 years ago from England. However I grew up in Jamaica in the West Indies which has added a different dimension to who I am.

I trained as a Baptist minister at Spurgeon’s College in London and obtained an honours degree in theology and have been actively involved in Christian ministry in several different communities both in the UK and here in Australia. My wife and I have been involved with young people for the last 30 years in a number of different settings (camps, youth groups, schools sport, kids clubs etc.) and are committed to actively encouraging young people to reach their full potential.

We have also being involved in a number of community projects that were geared for supporting families that were experiencing difficulties. I have also worked for a year as a WFTD supervisor with the unemployed in Victoria.

Karen is currently the school nurse at Emmanuel College here on the Gold Coast.

Prior to training for Ministry I was a professional computer system design engineer working for the British Royal Navy supporting various naval training simulators across the UK. For most of my life I have been an active sportsman playing soccer, and working out in the gym. For many years I have coached soccer at Primary, High School and Senior levels. I have many interests which include Music, Art, Golf, Cooking Indian Food and travelling the world.

I hope to bring my experience, interests and vocation to helping students, families and staff at Merrimac State School.

The Chaplain provides a respectful listening ear:
- At School
- By Phone
- In your home

◊ Presents positive Christian values
◊ Provides emotional support

Other Tasks Include
- Provides help in times of grief and loss
- Provides referrals to appropriate support groups and agencies
- Attending excursions, camps and other events
- Being visible in the school grounds during breaks to meet students
- Providing a link between the school, community and churches
- Attending excursions, camps and other events
- Being visible in the school grounds during breaks to meet students
- Providing a link between the school, community and churches

Working with Students

If the staff at school feel that your child would benefit from working with the Chaplain, contact will be made with the family to seek permission before any formal interaction is commenced.

Your child may of course, initiate contact with the chaplain if seeking a listening ear. The chaplain will contact the family following this conversation if he believes the issues need to be addressed.