

Friday February 24

Chaplaincy secured beyond 2018

Funding for public school chaplaincy beyond 2018 is now secure following a commitment from the Premier and the Opposition Leader.

This great news has been welcomed by YouthCARE.

At a question and answer session at a major event in Perth, Premier Colin Barnett and Opposition Leader Mark McGowan responded to a question from YouthCARE CEO Stanley Jeyaraj, about their commitment to school chaplaincy services in public schools beyond 2018 - when the current funding agreement ends.

Mr Barnett said the school chaplaincy service was a great support to children and families and took a lot pressure off schools.

“We want to guarantee that any school that wants a chaplain can have a chaplain...the funding will just go on - as the population grows, the number of chaplains will grow,” he said.

Mr McGowan also agreed school chaplaincy was a vital service in the school community.

“I’ve had considerable involvement with chaplains in my electorate of Rockingham, they do a brilliant job,” he said.

“Yes, I agree that the program should continue. It is a very good program and the funding should roll on.”

Mr Jeyaraj said he was pleased that both parties expressed strong support for school chaplaincy.

“We welcome and thank Mr Barnett and Mr McGowan for their support and confirmation of ongoing funding for school chaplaincy beyond the current period,” he said.

“It is very reassuring that their commitment ensures school chaplaincy in public schools is secured well into the future.”

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