

MEDIA RELEASE

Doctors in Secondary Schools Program begins at McGuire College Shepparton

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Students at McGuire College in Shepparton will be able to access to a general practitioner at school, with the Victorian Government's Doctors in Secondary Schools pilot program beginning at the school this week.

Murray PHN has partnered with the Department of Education and Training to deliver adolescent health trained GPs to 22 secondary schools in the region, to assist young people to get the health and wellbeing support they need.

The program is aimed at making primary health care more accessible to students, provide assistance to young people so they can identify and address health problems early, and reduce pressure on working parents and community-based GPs.

Murray PHN CEO, Matt Jones, said the doctors will attend the schools up to one day a week to provide medical advice and health care to those students who might not have the same access to doctors as others.

"It's important for everyone to be able to communicate and build strong relationships with their local GP. This initiative means students will be able to build that relationship from a young age, and rural, regional and disadvantaged areas won't miss out," Mr Jones said.

Doctors John Mackellar and Jerry Wang and nurse Emma Roesler from Kialla Medical Clinic will visit the school once a week, operating out of a purpose-built consultation area provided by the Department of Education.

McGuire College Assistant Principal Anna Sloane said the school is are looking forward to working closely with the staff from Kialla Medical Clinic.

"Many of our students have difficulties accessing medical services for a variety of reasons. The Doctors in Secondary Schools program will allow our students to benefit from having improved access to health care which will help them identify health issues early so they can get the help they need," she said.

Contact details

For more details, or to request an interview contact Caroline Hamilton, Communications Specialist e: chamilton@murrayphn.org.au or t: 03 4408 5663 m: 0449 257 776.