

Information Sheet – GP clinic at Mabel Park State High School

For students

Helping students get the health care they need

Mabel Park State High School will have a doctor working at the school in 2019. This will mean you can get health information, advice and treatment.

Am I allowed to go the GP by myself?

Yes. You can make an appointment to see the doctor on your own.

The doctor will check that you can understand any information they give you.

The doctor will talk to you about why you are there. They will decide if your parents or carers need to know about it. If the doctor needs to talk to your parents or carers they will ask you if that is ok first.

Can I consent (agree) to my own medical treatment?

If the doctor thinks you understand what the treatment means, how it will help you and what the risks are, you will be able to make your own decision about treatment. The GP will consider:

- your age and maturity;
- your independence – whether you live at home with a parent or carer, or support yourself;
- how serious the treatment is; and
- if you understand why the treatment is needed, what it involves, and things that might go wrong (like side effects from medication, or other complications).

If the doctor thinks that you cannot make your own decision about treatment, they will ask your permission to talk to your parent or carer before recommending treatment.

Will you tell my Parent or carer about my visit to the doctor?

If the doctor thinks you can see them alone and make your own decisions about treatment, they are usually not allowed to tell your parents or carers anything about the visit unless you say they can. This is called confidentiality.

However, if you are under 14 years of age and are still on your parents' Medicare card, your parents might be able to tell that you have had an appointment. They might find out from Medicare, either online, over the phone or by mail. They will be able to see the date of your appointments and the name of the doctor you

have seen. Make sure you talk to the doctor at the start of your appointment if you don't want your parents to know about your visit.

There might be some situations where the doctor thinks your parents or carers (or teachers) should know about your visit and treatment. They will tell you why this is and will help you to talk with them if needed.

If your doctor is worried about your health and safety, or the safety of others, they might have to tell your parent, carer or another person by Law. The doctor will discuss this further when you meet with them.

In most of these cases the doctor will talk with you first about who they need to tell.

Can I bring a friend to the appointment?

Yes. You can bring a friend, a parent or carer, or even a teacher, if that will make you feel better.

Will it cost anything to see the GP?

No. Seeing the GP at the school will be free.

What is a Medicare card and how do I get my own?

A Medicare card lets people get medical services and medicines at low cost or for free.

Usually young people are named on their parents' Medicare card. If you are 15 years or older, you can get your own Medicare card by applying to Medicare Australia. Information about how to do this will be available through the school.

For more information please email or visit:

gp@mabelparkshs.eq.edu.au

<https://mabelparkshs.eq.edu.au/Facilities/Pages/MP-Clinic.aspx>

<https://www.uqhealthcare.org.au/>



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