

## Context

Travancore School is a Department of Education and Training (DET) facility, servicing the educational needs of children and young people who are clients of the Royal Children's Hospital Mental Health (RCH MH) and the Orygen Clinical Program. RCH MH and Orygen offer specialist mental health services aimed at children and young people with severe and/or complex mental illness.

The school provides education programs for small groups and educational outreach to individual students and their schools. In line with the mental health services intake criteria, students must reside in the North Western Mental Health area which covers the local government areas of Moreland, Hume, Melbourne, Moonee Valley, Brimbank, Melton, Maribyrnong, Hobsons Bay, and Wyndham). Students attending the Banksia program may also reside in the regional Mental Health areas of Barwon, Grampians and Glenelg.

The student population covers all age groups (F-12). Contact with students can be as little as one consultation through to more extensive group or individual work. Most students continue to be enrolled in other schools or education providers during their time with Travancore School. As such, the school does not formally enrol students as practised in other DET settings.

## Program Specific Enrolment

### Banksia

All young people admitted to the Banksia Adolescent Ward at RCH will become students of Travancore School for the duration of their admission. Students maintain enrolment at their existing school or education provider.

### Parkville/Sunshine

Clients of Orygen Community treatment programs who select to participate in educational services through the Psychosocial Program become students of Travancore School. Enrolment at other schools or education providers may be maintained or initiated during this time. They generally cease to be Travancore students when they are no longer participating in any educational program or on discharge from the clinical program.

### Outreach

Clients of RCH MH Community programs who are referred by their case managers for educational outreach become students of Travancore School while maintaining involvement with their existing school. They cease to be Travancore students when discharged from the clinical program or when the referral goal has been addressed.

### In2School

Clients of RCH MH Community programs with severe school refusal who are referred by their case managers for the In2School intervention become students of Travancore School. Connection to any existing school is maintained with the aim of full reengagement. They cease to be Travancore students on completion of the In2School intervention or when discharged from the clinical program.

### **Operation Newstart Western**

Students aged 14-17 years, attending DET secondary schools in the western metropolitan area who are at risk of educational disengagement can be referred to the Newstart program. Eight students are selected for the program each term. Students attend both Newstart activities and their own school throughout the term. Students then return to their own schools or another educational placement and cease to be Travancore students.

### **REVIEW CYCLE AND EVALUATION**

This policy was last updated in May, 2020 and is scheduled for review in May 2023.