



# Schools' Program



## THE WAYSIDE CHAPEL - BACKGROUND

The Wayside Chapel has provided unconditional love, care and support for people on and around the streets of Kings Cross since 1964.

Each year, thousands of people visit Wayside for assistance in gaining equitable access to essential health, welfare and related services. In the past year alone Wayside has provided, amongst other services, 7500 meals, clothing for 2688 people and 2924 counselling sessions with over 2300 referrals to services and agencies.

A further 50,000 visits were made by people just stopping by for a chat, a coffee or a quiet place to think. A pressing need for many of Wayside's visitors is purely company and acceptance; just being in a place where they are welcome to 'be'. Many Wayside visitors have endured lives of great hardship and struggle with alcohol and other drug addiction, mental health issues and homelessness.

For younger visitors Wayside has a youth specific safe space – Wayside Youth – which offers a supportive environment for 12-25 year olds with a specific focus on those at risk in the Kings Cross area.

Our federally funded Day to Day Living Program offers support for people with long term mental health issues to participate in social, recreational and educational activities.

Wayside also runs a series of clinics in partnership with other agencies and services. These include the Homeless Persons Legal Clinic every Monday with lawyers from Deacons and weekly primary health care clinics.

## SCHOOLS' PROGRAM

The Wayside Schools' Program is designed for year 10, 11 and 12 students to highlight issues facing those people on or around the streets of Kings Cross. The program is structured into two main sessions; the first focuses on engagement and education. This session addresses the main three issues facing many of Wayside's visitors: homelessness; drug and alcohol abuse; and mental health.

The second session incorporates a walking tour of Kings Cross and the surrounding area. During the walk the group stops near agencies to learn how they operate, their history and how they answer the needs of those in the community. This session concludes with a debrief and opportunity for students to discuss the initiatives they may undertake to lend support for those who are disadvantaged in the community.

The program lasts for 2 hours and there is a charge of \$12 per student. The program is limited to 20 students per session.



To book a session or for more information please call Marcus Ross on 02 9358 5582 or email [marcus.ross@thewaysidechapel.com](mailto:marcus.ross@thewaysidechapel.com)

For further information on The Wayside Chapel please visit [www.thewaysidechapel.com](http://www.thewaysidechapel.com)

## CURRICULUM

The Wayside Schools' program fits within the outcomes for the following NSW curriculum subjects:

### Year 10

- PDHPE
- Religious Education - Stage 5  
- E10.3 Working for Justice  
in Australia

### HSC

- Community and Family Studies
- Geography
- PDHPE
- Society and Culture
- Studies of Religion