

# Wild Rose School Division Informed Consent



## Wild Rose School Division Family Wellness Program

The Family Wellness Program provides short-term supportive assistance to students and/or their families who are having difficulties and require support at school, home, and/or in the community. Family Wellness Workers aim to help you, your child and/or your family find solutions to specific problems. Family Wellness Workers do not perform assessments or provide advice regarding child custody or other legal issues. All records containing personal information about you, your child and/or your family will be kept in accordance with the Freedom of Information and Privacy Act (FOIP).

### Confidentiality

Family Wellness Workers are required to keep yours, your child's and/or your family's personal information confidential, however, there are limitations to this:

- Family Wellness Workers are permitted to consult with other professionals within the school district (ie: principals, teachers, special education coordinators, teaching assistants, other Family Wellness Workers, etc.) about your situation, your child's situation and/or your families situation on a need-to-know basis, and only when in the best interest of you, the child and/or the family. Should you choose to have the information between yourself and/or your child and their Family Wellness Worker withheld from school personal, please put this directive in writing and deliver it to the Family Wellness Worker.
- Family Wellness Workers may occasionally collaborate with other professionals that are also providing services to your child and/or your family. Prior to releasing and/or sharing information about you, your child and/or your family, written consent from parents and/or guardians must first be provided.
- Family Wellness Workers may consult for supervision purposes about you, your child's and/or your family's situation. Your name or any other identifying information will not be shared.
- Family Wellness Workers are required by law to disclose any suspicion of child abuse and/or neglect.
- Family Wellness Workers are required to disclose when there is a legal requirement to do so
- Family Wellness Workers are mandated to disclose when there is imminent danger to you the child and/or the family.
- Family Wellness Workers may be required to disclose when, in reasonable opinion, the law may have been broken.
- Family Wellness Workers are required to disclose when there is imminent danger to others.
- Family Wellness Workers are required to disclose when someone is a danger to you, your child and/or your family.

### **Risks and Benefits**

- Participating in the Family Wellness Program has both risks and benefits. Risks may include, but are not limited to: you, your child and/or your family experiencing feelings of sadness, guilt, anxiety and/or frustration. This may be caused by the discussion of unpleasant and/or difficult life situations. You, your child and/or your family may experience worsening of problems and/or symptoms for an indeterminable period of time.
- Benefits of the Family Wellness Program include, but are not limited to: finding solutions to specific problems, a reduction in feelings of distress, enhanced communication, improved coping skills and/or improved relationships.

### **Referrals**

- Family Wellness Workers may not always be able to address you, your child's and/or your family's situation, at which time a referral may be made to another service or program.

### **Consent**

- Family Wellness Workers are encouraged to first obtain consent from the guardian (usually the parent(s)) prior to meeting with the child and/or their family, however, Family School Liaison Workers are permitted to see a child and/or family once without consent for the limited purpose of determining if services are being sought and if services might be of benefit.
- An independent student, as defined in the School Act, may consent to the Family Wellness Program.
- Students and/or their families may withdraw from the Family Wellness Program at any time.
- Students and/or their families may revoke consent for the Family Wellness Program at any time. Consent that is revoked must be done in writing and delivered to the Family Wellness Worker.
- Family Wellness Workers may terminate involvement with you, your child and/or your family at any time, and without reason.
- Family Wellness Workers are obligated to determine, in accordance with the Family Law Act, who the guardian(s) of a child is. In situations where there is more than one guardian, each of whom has guardianship rights, the Family Wellness Worker is required to obtain consent from both guardians prior to meeting with their child. Should one of the guardians not consent to the Family Wellness Program, the Family Wellness Worker will not be permitted to meet with the child.
- Consent is valid from August to August, unless withdrawn in writing.

### **Your Responsibilities**

- Your involvement with the Family Wellness Worker is a professional and helping relationship. In order for the work you are doing with the Family Wellness Worker to be of value, it is important that you agree to the following.
- Keep the Family Wellness Worker informed of any relevant information.
- Be honest and up-front with the Family Wellness Worker.
- Commit to scheduled meeting times with the Family Wellness Worker.
- Keep in regular contact with the Family Wellness Worker, including returning phone calls.
- Follow-through with actions and/or referrals that you and the Family Wellness Worker decide are required.

NOTE: Some of the provisions of the Family Law Act may be relevant to guardianship. Specific information can be obtained by contacting the Family Wellness Worker.