

HEWETT HOUSE, NAPIER GIRLS' HIGH SCHOOL

STRATEGY TO COPE WITH SUDDEN DEATH OR SUICIDE IN THE SCHOOL POLICY

Policy Statement

Hewett House can provide a caring environment and assist with counselling to refocus after sudden death or suicide in Hewett House.

Purpose

- 1 To ensure Hewett House has in place a general strategy that can be implemented immediately should a sudden death or suicide occur.
- 2 To give all staff and boarders procedures and support to deal with the event of a sudden death or suicide.
- 3 To identify and help any boarders who are 'at risk' after the sudden death or suicide.

Guidelines

- 1 The strategy is general and will need to be adapted for different situations.
- 2 A Hewett House strategy can avoid stress and confusion among staff and ensure that the best possible help is available to the boarders.

Strategy - See '*Crisis Management Plan*'

Crisis Team

This could consist of all or any of the following individuals, plus any others who may be considered most appropriate at the time of need:

- Principal of Napier Girls' High School
- Manager of Hewett House
- Dean of boarder involved
- Form teacher involved
- Counsellor

The team would need to meet and delegate responsibilities in the main areas of:

- 1 Co-ordination and communication (Principal)
- 2 Action plan for staff (Principal, Counsellor)
- 3 Working with boarders (Counsellor, Dean, Form Teacher)