Access to School Support Officers Policy

Definitions:
School Support Officers are Allied Health Professionals who are available to provide support to students in Victorian Government Schools. They include Psychologists, Social Workers and Speech Pathologists.

Rationale:
Gembrook Primary School will explore all avenues to support students and families with developmental and social issues to optimise the students ability to engage in the learning program.

Aims:
To provide specialised support to students and families with identified developmental or social issues that are impacting on their ability to engage in the learning program.

Implementation:
- A teacher with concerns about a child’s development will approach the Principal to discuss the student.
- The teacher and Principal will decide the best method of discussing the concern with parents and requesting a permission form to be signed.
- Principal will complete an online request for the student to receive SSO services using the SOC portal. The Principal and teacher will monitor the time line between referral and assessment to ensure the process commences in a timely manner.
- The SSO will attend the school to visit the child and establish contact with the family.
- The Principal, teacher and SSO will liaise with the family and student to implement recommendations for intervention and management.

Evaluation:
Gembrook Primary School students receive professional assistance from Psychologists, Social Workers and Speech Pathologists through the DET service in a timely manner.
All will be for 3 year review unless otherwise stated.

Ratified in 201…