“The Lounge” Adolescent Health Clinic Policy

RATIONALE

“The Lounge” is an Adolescent Health Clinic that provides a confidential health advice and referral service as a collaborative approach between Hepburn Health Service, Springs Medical Centre, and Daylesford Secondary College solely for students who attend Daylesford Secondary College. The clinic offers everything that would normally be available at the medical centre. Same doctors, same service.

AIM

• To provide an accessible and confidential health service to the students who attend Daylesford Secondary College in order for them to maintain optimal health and to assist in making healthy choices.

ROLES

• The role of the GP is to provide medical assistance as per their normal professional response in any given General Practitioners role.
• The role of the Youth Outreach Counsellor is stated within the ‘What You Say….STAYS’ handout and this document should be provided to the client in any contact situation. The role of the project worker is clearly defined as a referral position and the worker should, during any contact, explain this responsibility with the client. The Youth Outreach Counsellor should be provided support from other Hepburn Health staff to ensure both client and worker safety. Any meeting should be held, where possible, in an open environment and with the knowledge of another worker. In the case of opposite sex meetings, or any other potentially difficult situation, the project worker should seek the assistance of another worker.
• The Youth Project Worker may provide assistance to the Health Workers, such as attending consultative sessions, however, always with the approval of the client.

IMPLEMENTATION

• “The Lounge” will operate from Daylesford Secondary College from the hours of 1.00pm to 3.00pm on Monday afternoons during school term dates.
• Only students enrolled at DSC are able to access the services provided by “The Lounge”.
• All students from Year 7-12 are able to access the services of “The Lounge”.
• Parents/Guardians will be required to notify the college if they do not wish for their child/children or student in their care to be able to access this service. This is known as an “opt out” arrangement.
• In regards to all matters related to “Confidentiality”, all records regarding attendance at “The Lounge” will be held by Springs Medical.
• Students shall make appointments through the College Student Wellbeing Staff.
• Parents/Guardians are also able to make appointments for their son/daughter or student in their care to access the services provided by “The Lounge”, but must also contact the College Student Wellbeing Staff to do so.
• Once an appointment is made, students will be given a “student welfare pass” to ensure they are able to be released from class to attend their scheduled appointment time.
• Students should wait quietly for their appointment in the designated waiting area.
• The ongoing care of a student who utilises the services of “The Lounge” remains the responsibility of the relationship between the practitioner and the student.
• Equipment and medical supplies will be provided by Springs Medical Centre. Medical Waste removal and cleaning of “The Lounge” will also remain the responsibility of Springs Medical and Hepburn Health Service.
• Where a referral is required to another professional/provider, all efforts will be made for that provider to visit “The Lounge” at Daylesford Secondary College. Students are not permitted to leave college grounds during school hours to attend appointments to other health service providers unless they have written permission from their parent/guardian.

EVALUATION

• This policy will be reviewed as part of the school’s regular review cycle.

ATTACHMENTS

1. Parent Letter for “Opt Out” purposes
2. “The Lounge” Brochure

Ratified by School Council Date: March 2011
Signed Principal: Tiffany Holt
School Council President: Lorraine Hayes
Review Date: March 2013