

Student Services Plan Dardanelle Primary School

Individual and Small Group Counseling (Direct Service)

Although the school counselor works with students when they experience problems, counseling must be more than the provision of remediation and crisis intervention. Developmental counseling provides students with coping strategies before a crisis occurs. This may involve seeing students individually or in groups to help them develop skills and use their resources. Students are referred for counseling by the following: staff, teachers, parents, school-based therapists, school administrators, peers, or themselves.

Guidance in Understanding the Relationship between Classroom Performance and Success in School (Direct Service)

The counselor assists students in understanding the relationship between school and classroom performance and their future college or career aspirations. This process begins in early grades and continues throughout the students' education. The counselor works with students individually, in small groups, and in whole classroom settings to help students see the connections.

Academic Advisement (Direct Service)

Academic advisement begins in elementary school and continues through high school. The school counselor acts as an advisor at all levels to guide students toward developing short and long-term goals for educational decision-making designed to help students prepare for college and career plans. Informational resources are also available and organized in such a way as to guide students and provide information relevant to reach goals.

Orientation (Direct Service)

Orientation is a process for students, teachers, parents, and stakeholders to learn about the guidance, counseling, and other student services offered to assist in the adjustment of new students to a school. Orientation is designed to help students make smoother transitions from one school setting to another. Formal programs may be used in a classroom setting for groups entering a new school after promotion. As new students enter school throughout the year, orientation may consist of individual or group sessions assisted by peer helpers.

Consultation and Coordination (Administrative Activity)

An important part of the counselor's role is to collaborate with teachers and parents. Counselors work with teachers and administrators to help create school environments that encourage student growth and learning.

Consultation can include but is not limited to the following:

- Participating in and supporting the work of the RTI team
- Conducting professional development workshops
- Discussions with teachers and other school personnel on subjects such as suicide prevention or child maltreatment reporting requirements

- Assisting teachers to work with individual students or groups of students
- Providing relevant materials and resources to teachers
- Assisting in the identification and development of programs for students with special needs, climate, and other guidance-related activities.
- Interpreting student data or assessment results
- Consulting with other specialists (e.g., social workers, psychologists, representatives from community agencies).
- The counselor can also coordinate services between the school, home, and community agencies so that efforts to help students are successful and reinforced rather than duplicated.

Parental Involvement (Administrative Activity)

- The counselor holds at least three parental engagement activities a year to help parents and students with social, emotional, behavior, and careers topics. Monthly newsletters and social media are used to keep families updated on school counseling programs, opportunities, or information on ways to support their students at home. Counselors, along with other school staff, also encourage parents to participate in volunteer opportunities within the school setting.

Utilization of Student Records (Administrative Activity)

The school counselor reviews academic records and files, and may update them for use with students and parents, as well as for their own professional use.

Interpretation of Student Assessments (Direct Services)

Counselors help students identify their skills, abilities, achievements, and interests through counseling activities and the guidance curriculum.

Interpretation of Student Assessments (Direct or Administrative Activity)

Counselors interpret standardized test results for parents, faculty, students, and community stakeholders. Working with students to interpret and understand their own standardized assessment results would be a direct counseling service.

Educational Academic Advisement, Career Counseling, Career Opportunities, and Alternative Programs (Direct Service)

Counselors advise students and parents on educational, academic assessment, and career counseling including advising students on iStation and ACT Aspire assessments as well as tutoring and afterschool alternative programs that could provide extra student support.

Making Referrals to School and Community Resources (Administrative Activity)

Counselors establish and maintain close working relationships with a variety of school and community agencies. These agencies include departments of health and social services, mental health centers, juvenile courts, and advocacy groups. To help students and their families cope with an array of

problems, counselors identify school and community resources and support the established policies and procedures for interagency communication.

Direct Counseling Activity Examples – 75% of Time Monthly

The counselor provides direct to students at least 75% of their time monthly. Examples of direct counseling are:

- Individual social/emotional counseling
- Individual academic guidance and counseling
- Individual career education guidance and counseling and vocational decision making
- Orienting new students to the school
- Consultation with students
- Interpretation of state-mandated assessments with students
- Review records and files while assisting students
- Small group counseling sessions
- Classroom guidance sessions

Administrative Activities Examples- 25% of Time Monthly

The counselor provides administrative services no more than 25% of their time monthly. Examples of administrative services are:

- Consultation services with school personnel and outside agencies
- Making appropriate referrals
- Test interpretation about students; test interpretation for parents, faculty or community
- Updating guidance/counseling records for counselor's utilization
- Planning, managing, and evaluating the comprehensive counseling program
- Planning classroom guidance lessons

The American School Counselor Association's Position on High-Stakes Testing and School Counseling

https://www.schoolcounselor.org/asca/media/asca/PositionStatements/PS_High-StakesTesting.pdf

Career Awareness and Planning in School Counseling Programs (Direct Service)

Annotated Code 6-18-1009 states: "Each school counselor shall provide a career planning process for each student to include career awareness, employment readiness, career information, and the knowledge and skill necessary to achieve career goals. School counselors shall also encourage parents, during regular parent conference, to support partnerships in their children's learning and career planning process." At the elementary level, guidance and classroom activities can focus on developing personal skills, career exploration and making the connection between them and the world of work.

Suicide Prevention Public Awareness Program

The School Counseling Department follows the **ADE Guidance and School Counseling Suicide Prevention Resources** <http://www.arkansased.gov/divisions/learning-services/guidance-and-school-counseling/student-support>.