

Some points to remember...

- When an ADF family member is deployed, please contact the DSM so that they are aware of the circumstances
- If your child is experiencing difficulties settling in, please contact the DSM
- Please make the DSM aware if your child has any special needs or requirements
- When posting occurs please advise the DSM of the new location so that they can assist in collecting information about the anticipated new school
- The DSM can provide information on Education Assistance Scheme programs (i.e. tutoring)

Any further questions please contact:  
Defence Families Helpline 1800 624 608



## Monique Weekley

Please contact me at  
The Springfield Anglican College  
on 07 3814 8100 or [mweekley@tsac.qld.edu.au](mailto:mweekley@tsac.qld.edu.au)

MY HOURS ARE:  
TUESDAYS – SENIOR CAMPUS  
FRIDAYS – PRIMARY CAMPUS  
8:00AM – 4:00PM

### **The Tiny Tartan Kindergarten**

Springfield College Drive, Springfield QLD 4300

### **The Springfield Anglican College – Primary Campus**

Springfield College Drive, Springfield QLD 4300  
P: 07 3818 5777 E: [info@tsac.qld.edu.au](mailto:info@tsac.qld.edu.au)

### **The Springfield Anglican College – Secondary Campus**

Springfield Greenbank Arterial, Springfield QLD 4300  
P: 07 3814 8100 E: [info@tsac.qld.edu.au](mailto:info@tsac.qld.edu.au)

FSAC Ltd t/a The Springfield Anglican College  
– CRICOS Registration Number 03658M



DEFENCE  
SCHOOL  
MENTOR  
(DSM)



## Welcome to The Springfield Anglican College

My name is Monique, and I'm the Defence School Mentor (DSM) here at The Springfield Anglican College. My role within the school is to make the transition to a new school as seamless as possible for your student. I am here to assist you with any concerns you may have in regards to your student's educational, emotional or social needs.

I welcome communication from parents to ensure I am able to give the best support to your student during their time here at TSAC. I hope to enhance a happy and productive experience for your family. As part of the communication process, please advise me if your family will be or is currently experiencing a posting or extended parental absence, so I can best support your family.

I look forward to meeting with you and supporting your students during your time here in Springfield.

Monique Weekley

## What does a Defence School Mentor (DSM) do?

A DSM is a liaison between parents, teachers, children and the school.

## Who does the DSM help?

The DSM helps and supports all Australian Defence children at the school should they seek or require assistance.

## Why do we have DSM's in Schools?

Sometimes children have difficulties making new friends as well as understanding and adjusting to the routines of a new school. The DSM will assist the children and family become part of the school community.

Mentors work to minimise the impact of mobility on education and build the capability of the school in supporting Defence Students and their families.

The DSM will answer any questions about the school and link families to the right person to provide help and assistance. Please note DSM's are not councillors.

**"The Defence School Mentor is an employee of the school, with funding provided annually from the Department of Defence to facilitate the best possible educational outcome for children of Australian Defence members. This funding program is administered by the Defence Member and Family Support (DMFS) Branch and recognises the partnership between education authorities, schools and Defence to support Defence members and their families."**

From DMFS Website

## Supporting Defence Students

The Mentor' activities include:

- Assisting children and families to integrate into the new school and local community,
- Coordinating welcome and farewell activities for relocating students,
- Smoothing the transition between schools and different education systems (including minimising the impact of relocation on students learning outcomes),
- Monitoring the social, emotional and academic wellbeing of Defence students,
- Helping students develop self-confidence, self-reliance and resilience,
- Directing students to programs, services or opportunities that suit their needs,
- Enhancing awareness and appreciation of the unique Defence lifestyle in schools and communities, and
- Providing support to children during times of parental absence.