** DRUMMOND STREET SERVICES**

IPC Health Offices, 117-129 Warringa Crescent, Hoppers Crossing, Vic 3029

Tel: (03) 9663 6733 Email: enquiries@ds.org.au Website: [www.ds.org.au](http://www.ds.org.au)

*Kidz Talk* child counselling and support is a short-term, no-cost, Child Mental Health Service for children who are at risk of developing, or are experiencing mild to moderate emotional, mental health or behavioural difficulties. This could include; anxiety, depression, emotional and behavioural issues and issues related to upbringing and negative life experiences, such as family breakdown, grief, loss, abuse and trauma.

For many families and at certain times in a child’s family life, it can be difficult to understand a child’s behaviours or emotions. Seeking help early and talking to someone about what is going on for your child at home, preschool or school can help you to learn valuable new skills and strategies to help you and your child.

Part of the Australian Government’s Access to Allied Psychological Services Child and Mental Health Service (ATAPS CMHS) initiative and funded by Melbourne Primary Care Network, ATAPS CMHS provides evidence-based psychological therapies. Our mental health professionals are qualified Psychologists or Social Workers with training and experience in mental health services for children.

Parents, carers and guardians may be involved in the assessment and treatment sessions with their children, however the focus of support is on the child’s wellbeing. The support needs of other family members may be met by alternate Drummond Street programs.

The Kidz Talk service is **NOT** suitable for children;

– Who have severe and persistent mental illness.

– Are managed by a state government mental health agency.

– Are seeking support for developmental disorders or require specific developmental assessments.

– Where the child’s condition can be competently treated by the GP, Paediatrician, Maternal and Child Health nurse and/or mental health nurse.

## **Who is it for?**

Kidz Talk is for children living in Carlton, Werribee, Glenroy, Epping and Sunshine locations. ATAPS eligible families, including low-income families and those who cannot access other mental health services are encouraged to access support. Under the ATAPS CMHS initiative, eligible children can see a mental health practitioner for up to 12 sessions per calendar year.

**How do I make an appointment**?

Parents or carers can arrange a referral through their GP, child’s Psychiatrist, Paediatrician or an approved provisional referrer\*. The completed referral form should be forwarded to Drummond Street Services who will arrange an appointment for your child.

*\*Provisional referrer’s can include; School Psychologists/Social Workers, Early Childhood Directors, Primary School Nurses, Pre-school Field Officers or Maternal and Child Health Nurses.*

*Please Note: Every referral requires a Child Treatment Plan (CTP), outlining the child’s issues and support needs. This plan is usually completed by a GP. Where a referral has been made by a provisional referrer, the parents or carers must see their GP to obtain a CTP within two weeks of the child’s first session.*

The Intake team are available to answer any questions about referring to Drummond St, their details are:

Phone: (03) 9663 6733

Email: intake@ds.org.au