Day 1 - 5 May 2014

8.00 am Breakfast Briefing: This session is for school groups and individuals that are not currently involved with KidsMatter.

9.30 am Main conference opens

9.40 am Welcome to Country: Aunty Di Kerr

9.50 am Official opening: Bernie Geary (Commission for Children and Young People)

10.10 am Collective impact as a framework for guiding partnerships: Sue West (Centre for Community Child Health)

Sue will look into the future of mental health and wellbeing for schools, focusing on sharing positive orientation capacity building through partnership.

10.55 am Keeping sight of the big picture: Benalla P-12 College

Join Heather Leary as she speaks about the importance of commitment and vision at a school level, and how to keep sight of the big picture even though we are often consumed with the day to day running of an effective school.

11.15 am Morning tea

11.35 am The brighter side of the cloud: Mark Sparvell (Principals Australia Institute)

Re-pivoting the discussion from cybersecurity to cyber community, Mark will explore social media and positive youth identity and how schools can help develop active, informed and positive citizens.

12.35 pm Making digital citizenship a reality: Melbourne Montessori School

The team from Melbourne Montessori School will share how they have developed a rigorous approach to digital citizenship.

12.55 pm Lunch

1.35 pm Myths, mindsets and magic: A strengths-based approach to staff wellbeing: Liz Freeman (University of Melbourne)

Liz will speak about a strength-based positive approach to how staff can utilise strengths and passions, organise work approaches and structure jobs to promote wellbeing and improve teaching and learning outcomes.

2.25 pm Incorporating PERMA for staff wellbeing: Oakleigh Primary School

Inspired by Martin Seligman’s ‘PERMA model’, this school has undertaken a staff wellbeing project based on multi-dimensional wellbeing.

2.40 pm The voice of students in staff wellbeing: Wahgunyah Primary School

What role do students play in staff wellbeing? Hear an inspiring story of how student voice was used to promote staff wellbeing through the celebration of National Teachers’ Day.

3.00 pm Afternoon tea

3.20 pm Helping kids to PROSPER: Dr Toni Noble (BounceBack)

Toni will draw on the latest research in positive psychology/education to show how to embed social and emotional learning into the primary school curriculum and help children and young people PROSPER in the complex world of the 21st century.

4.15 pm Bouncing back and buckets: the way we do social and emotional learning: Monnia Primary School

Lucy Vorpasso will share the school’s journey in planning, implementing and evaluating the social and emotional learning program, BounceBack. She will also share practical ways the school has continued to build on its successful implementation.

4.45 pm Summing up and moving on: Rob Mason (KidsMatter Primary)

Cocktail Session - Open Space Technology

5.30 pm What are those powerful questions, ideas and actions that lead to powerful impacts in mental health and wellbeing, and what could they be? Paul Stonon (KidsMatter Primary)

Join us for a cocktail and a canapé session with a difference. Open Space Technology is a new approach to conferencing that blurs the participant/presenter line and gives you control to call the shots and discuss what stirs your passion.

Day 2 - 6 May 2014

9.00 am Integrating hearts and minds: Tuning in to kids

9.00 am Creating a positive future for every child

9.30 am Main conference opens

9.40 am Welcome to Country: Aunty Di Kerr

9.50 am Official opening: Bernie Geary (Commission for Children and Young People)

10.10 am Collective impact as a framework for guiding partnerships: Sue West (Centre for Community Child Health)

Sue will look into the future of mental health and wellbeing for schools, focusing on sharing positive orientation capacity building through partnership.

10.55 am Keeping sight of the big picture: Benalla P-12 College

Join Heather Leary as she speaks about the importance of commitment and vision at a school level, and how to keep sight of the big picture even though we are often consumed with the day to day running of an effective school.

11.15 am Morning tea

11.35 am The brighter side of the cloud: Mark Sparvell (Principals Australia Institute)

Re-pivoting the discussion from cybersecurity to cyber community, Mark will explore social media and positive youth identity and how schools can help develop active, informed and positive citizens.

12.35 pm Making digital citizenship a reality: Melbourne Montessori School

The team from Melbourne Montessori School will share how they have developed a rigorous approach to digital citizenship.

12.55 pm Lunch

1.35 pm Myths, mindsets and magic: A strengths-based approach to staff wellbeing: Liz Freeman (University of Melbourne)

Liz will speak about a strength-based positive approach to how staff can utilise strengths and passions, organise work approaches and structure jobs to promote wellbeing and improve teaching and learning outcomes.

2.25 pm Incorporating PERMA for staff wellbeing: Oakleigh Primary School

Inspired by Martin Seligman’s ‘PERMA model’, this school has undertaken a staff wellbeing project based on multi-dimensional wellbeing.

2.40 pm The voice of students in staff wellbeing: Wahgunyah Primary School

What role do students play in staff wellbeing? Hear an inspiring story of how student voice was used to promote staff wellbeing through the celebration of National Teachers’ Day.

3.00 pm Afternoon tea

3.20 pm Helping kids to PROSPER: Dr Toni Noble (BounceBack)

Toni will draw on the latest research in positive psychology/education to show how to embed social and emotional learning into the primary school curriculum and help children and young people PROSPER in the complex world of the 21st century.

4.15 pm Bouncing back and buckets: the way we do social and emotional learning: Monnia Primary School

Lucy Vorpasso will share the school’s journey in planning, implementing and evaluating the social and emotional learning program, BounceBack. She will also share practical ways the school has continued to build on its successful implementation.

4.45 pm Summing up and moving on: Rob Mason (KidsMatter Primary)

Cocktail Session - Open Space Technology

5.30 pm What are those powerful questions, ideas and actions that lead to powerful impacts in mental health and wellbeing, and what could they be? Paul Stonon (KidsMatter Primary)

Join us for a cocktail and a canapé session with a difference. Open Space Technology is a new approach to conferencing that blurs the participant/presenter line and gives you control to call the shots and discuss what stirs your passion.

Ann Harley (University of Melbourne)

Ann will focus on parenting and support, exploring how an emotionally intelligent approach to parenting and teaching can support our children into the future.

10.45 am Morning tea

11.15 am Voices from the schoolyard:

Voices from the field: Paul Shelton (KidsMatter Primary)

World café aims to promote understanding, knowledge and the sharing of ideas. This session uses the four KidsMatter Primary components as a framework to look at what is working well, what is a challenge and where do we need to go in the future to support mental health and wellbeing.

11.50 am Concurrent sessions

11.30 am Integrating hearts and minds:

1.30 pm Bringing it together: Dr George Otero and panel

Dr George Otero (Centre for Relational Learning, USA)

Dr Otero will share research and practice that demonstrate the ability of every community to work together to transform children’s lives. He will share five key relationships and six natural ways of learning that promote learning in home, school and the wider community.

2.35 pm Great idea! Now what? Jason Clarke (Minds at Work)

Jason Clarke

You’ve been here before. You get to the end of a great conference with a bag full of notes and a head full of ideas and you can’t wait to get back to work to spread the good news.

That’s usually when things turn sour. ‘It won’t work here’ they say. ‘We tried that back in 1972’ they say. ‘There’s nothing wrong with the way we’re doing it now’ they say. Brilliant ideas get shot down every day and it keeps us from driving the change that our kids (and we) deserve.

But some people manage to get support for new ideas while the rest of us struggle to convince anyone. How do they do it? Is it just a matter of luck or is there a technique we can learn?

Find out in this closing session led by Jason Clarke, Director of Minds at Work.

3.20 pm Conference close: Rob Mason (KidsMatter Primary)