



# FACT SHEET: Student Behaviour Support - Continuum of Support

## Continuum of support and key features

An important component of PB4L is the adoption of a continuum of behavioural supports (Diagram 1) that, like academic instruction, acknowledges that students will need differing levels of behavioural interventions and supports to be successful at school. Within the continuum there are three levels of support.

### Tier 1 Universal Supports:

This first level focuses on universal behavioural and academic supports for all students. Here the focus is on prevention of problem behaviours, providing explicit teaching of expected behaviours and creating positive learning environments across all settings in the school. Research has shown that approximately 80-85% of students will respond to proactive universal supports, display the desired appropriate behaviours and have few behaviour problems (Horner & Sugai, 2005; Lewis, Newcomer, Trussell & Ritcher, 2006).

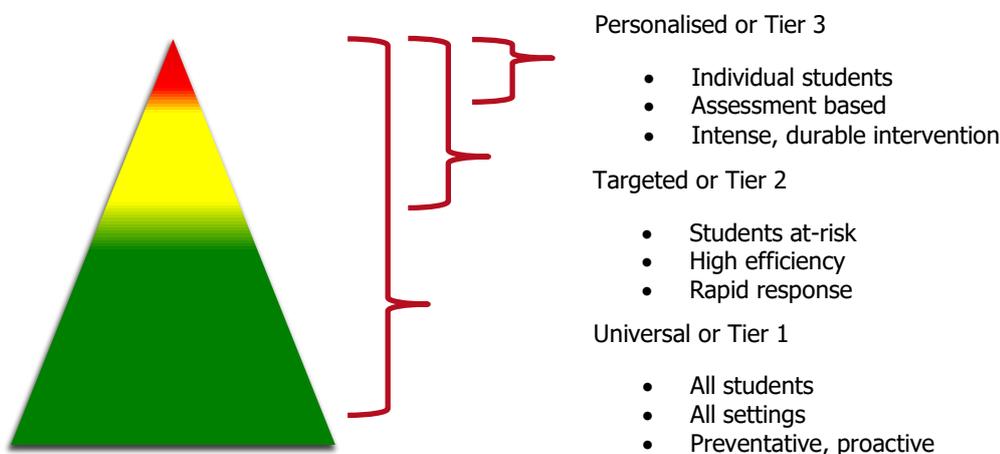
### Tier 2 Targeted Supports:

This second level focuses on targeted supports for students who continue to display problem behaviour even with the universal supports in place. Using data analysis, students are identified early, before problem behaviours become intense or chronic, to receive targeted supports such as small group social skill instruction, academic supports, mentoring and/or self-management strategies (Sailor et al., 2013).

### Tier 3 Personalised Supports:

This third level focuses on personalised supports that are intensive and individualised. These students will require highly individualised behaviour support programs based on a comprehensive behavioural assessment, which at times, will include mental health professionals and family and community services.

Diagram 1: **CONTINUUM OF STUDENT SUPPORTS**



By building a connected continuum, everyone in the school is aware of how each level of support is connected to the universal systems i.e. every targeted and individualised intervention uses the universal set of behavioural expectations to increase the likelihood of maintenance and generalisation to other contexts.

## Sacred Heart School Student Behaviour Support Plan

At Sacred Heart School, we believe the most effective way to help students demonstrate behaviours optimal for learning is through a school-wide positive problem-solving approach. [Visit the Positive Behaviour for Learning page on our school's website](#) to access the Sacred Heart School Student Behaviour Support Plan.

Horner, R. H. & Sugai, G. (2005) School-wide positive behavior support: An alternative approach to discipline in schools. In L. Bambara & L. Kern (Eds.), Positive behavior support (pp359-390). New York: Guilford.

Lewis, T. J., & Newcomer, L., Trussell, R., & Richter, M. (2006). School-wide positive behaviour support: Building systems to develop and maintain appropriate social behaviour. In C.S. Everston & C.M Weinstein (Eds.), *Handbook of Classroom management: Research, practice and contemporary issues* (pp833-854). New York: Lawrence Erlbaum.

Sailor, W., Dunlap, G., Sugai, G., & Horner, R., Eds. (2009). *Handbook for positive behavior support*. New York: Springer Science and Business Media.