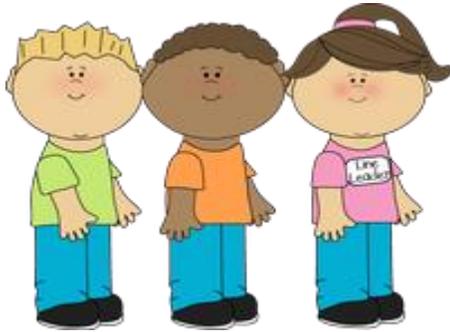


School Social Worker

Ms. Susan Lewis

What do school social workers do?



School social workers are a type of helper in the school. Ms. Lewis tries her best to help everyone!

A sampling of the ways school social workers help students, parents and school staff are listed below:

- Work with students in small groups or in classrooms
- Teach students to develop problem solving/ decision making skills
- Assist students to improve self-esteem, social skills and self-control
- Provide students ideas to be used as coping skills for challenges either at home or in school
- Teach students to advocate for themselves
- Work with students, staff and families to improve school concerns (attendance, grades, discipline, etc.)
- Offer positive parenting strategies to parents
 - Advocate for student's needs
- Serve as a link between home and school
- Identify students in crisis and respond to the situation
- Help coordinate efforts with other school programs

Why would someone want to visit Ms. Lewis?

Here are some reasons a student might want to talk to the school social worker:



"I want to show you a special project I made for my class. I'm very proud of it."

"I'm new to this school, and I'm really nervous!"

"I'm getting picked on and I don't know what to do about it."

"My best friend won't talk to me and I feel sad."

"When am I going to get to be in one of your groups?"

"I just want to talk to someone who won't tell me that I am overreacting. Do you have time to see me today?"

"I feel like the other kids do not want to play with me."

"I did a great job on my assignment."

"My friends and I keep having problems. Can you help us work it out?"

"I have been feeling really sad for the past 2 weeks."

"My cat died last night and I'm very sad. Can I talk to you?"

Here are some reasons parents might want to talk to the school social worker:

"Sarah doesn't want to go to school in the mornings."

"I'm concerned because Allen keeps telling me that he doesn't have any friends. Do you think a Friendship Group might help?"

"We recently had a death in the family, and I'm not sure how to tell my child."

"Kevin has difficulty going to sleep at night and often has nightmares."

"My husband and I have been divorced for two years, but we think our kids could really benefit from talking about it with other kids who are going through the same thing."

Here are some reasons teachers or administrators might want to talk to the school social worker:

"I need some ideas to help my students get along better."

"Jamie just can't sit still in the classroom."

"Jessica has been missing school a lot."

"James is new to this school and needs some special attention."

"I've noticed that Laura seems distracted and worried a lot lately."

"Lisa is a great kid, but she's really quiet and shy. She seems to be having a hard time initiating friendships. I think she'd benefit from speaking with you or maybe one of your groups."



Possible Classroom or Small Group Topics:

- Friendship
- Anger Management
- Listening vs Paying Attention
- Tattling vs Reporting
- Feelings
- Conflict Management
- Study Skills/Organization
- Self Esteem
- Anxiety
- Divorce/Separation
- Moving
- Coping

How to Contact Me:

Ms. Susan Lewis

Port Royal Elementary School

1214 Paris Avenue, Port Royal, SC 29909

(843) 322-0820

Susan.Lewis@beaufort.k12.sc.us

