



Role responsible for overseeing: School Wide Positive Behaviour Assistant Principal

CHILD SAFETY CODE OF CONDUCT

All schools are to have a child safety code of conduct as part of child safety standard 3 (ministerial order no. 870). The objective of the code of conduct is:

1. Promote child safety in the school environment
2. Set standards about the ways in which school staff are expected to behave with children
3. Take into account the interests of school staff and the needs of all children
4. Be consistent with the school's child safety strategies, policies and procedures

This advice does not replace any legislative or regulatory obligations or other professional or occupational codes of conduct that regulate particular staff at the school. For example the VIT Victorian Teaching Profession Codes of Conduct and Ethics provides clarity regarding professional behaviour expected of teachers at all times. The VIT code provides a useful guide to appropriate behaviour for all school staff.

At WCC we take into account the diversity of all children, including (but not limited to) the needs of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children, children from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds. Children with disabilities, and children who are vulnerable. We will make reasonable efforts to accommodate these matters.

A child safe organisation respects cultural differences and variations in child rearing practices due to a family's personal, cultural or religious beliefs. However a child safe organisation recognises that these differences do not reduce the child's right to be safe or the organisations responsibility to protect the child from harm.

This code of conduct applies to all school staff, visitors, contractors and volunteers. The code covers all activities including potentially high risk activities such as:

- Overnight camps
- Counselling
- First aid
- Bus travel
- Students with high support needs

CODE OF CONDUCT:

Unacceptable	Acceptable
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Be alone with a child unless there is a line of sight to other adults where possible • ignore or disregard any suspected or disclosed child abuse • develop any 'special' relationships with children that could be seen as favouritism (for example, the offering of gifts or special treatment for specific children) • exhibit behaviours with children which may be construed as unnecessarily physical (for example inappropriate sitting on laps) • put children at risk of abuse (for example, by locking doors) • initiate unnecessary physical contact which children or do things of a personal nature that a child can do for themselves, such as toileting or changing clothes • engage in open discussions of a mature or adult nature in the presence of children (for example, personal social activities) • Use inappropriate language in the presence of children • express personal views on cultures, race or sexuality in the presence of children • discriminate against any child, including because of age, gender, race, culture, vulnerability, sexuality, ethnicity or disability • have contact with a child or their family outside of school without the school's leadership or child safety officer's (if the school has appointed 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Have professional adult/child relationships at all times • Respond to a child's behaviour in accordance with the child's age and vulnerability • Be responsible for the care, safety and welfare of the child • adhere to the school's child safe policy and uphold the school's statement of commitment to child safety at all times • take all reasonable steps to protect children from abuse • treat everyone in the school community with respect • listen and respond to the views and concerns of children, particularly if they are telling you that they or another child has been abused or that they are worried about their safety/the safety of another child • promote the cultural safety, participation and empowerment of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children (for example, by never questioning an Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander child's self-identification) • promote the cultural safety, participation and empowerment of children with culturally and/or linguistically diverse backgrounds (for example, by having a zero tolerance of discrimination) • promote the safety, participation and empowerment of children with a disability (for example, during personal care activities)

Endorsed by School Council on 11/9/2020

Review date: August 2021

<https://www2.education.vic.gov.au/pal/child-safe-standards/policy>

<https://wyndhamcentralsc-vic.compass.education/Communicate/SchoolResources.aspx>

<p>someone to this role) knowledge and/or consent or the school governing authority's approval (for example, unauthorised after hours tutoring, private instrumental/other lessons or sport coaching). Accidental contact, such as seeing people in the street, is appropriate.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • have any online contact with a child (including by social media, email, instant messaging etc) or their family (unless necessary eg by providing families with e-newsletters or assisting students with their school work) • use any personal communication channels/device such as a personal email account • exchange personal contact details such as phone number, social networking sites or email addresses • photograph or video a child without the consent of the parent or guardians • work with children whilst under the influence of alcohol or illegal drugs • consume alcohol or drugs at school or at school events in the presence of children. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ensure as far as practicable that adults are not alone with a child • report any allegations of child abuse to the school's leadership (or Student Services) • understand and comply with all reporting obligations as they relate to mandatory reporting and reporting under the <i>Crimes Act 1958</i> • report any child safety concerns to the school's leadership (or Student Services) • if an allegation of child abuse is made, ensure as quickly as possible that the child(ren) are safe • report to the Victorian Institute of Teaching any charges, committals for trial or convictions in relation to a sexual offence by a registered teacher, or certain allegations or concerns about a registered teacher.
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I have read and understand my obligations under the school's child safety strategies, policies and procedures.

Name
Signature
Date

<https://www2.education.vic.gov.au/pal/child-safe-standards/policy>

Review Cycle:

This policy was last updated on the August 2020 and is scheduled for review in 1 year.

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