

# St Monica's Primary School Child-friendly edition of Child Safety Policy

## St Monica's Primary School Mission Statement



***Jesus is our guide.  
In him, we live, we  
move,  
we are called to be.***

## Introduction

Our school community promotes the safety, wellbeing and inclusion of all children. Staff, volunteers, students and their families work together to keep children safe from harm.



## Purpose

We have this policy to keep children safe and secure at school. It helps our community understand their responsibility to Child Safety.



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## Principles

St Monica's Primary School has a responsibility to create nurturing school environments where children and young people are respected, their voices are heard and they are safe and feel safe.



Our Vision:

*"Every child, every day, will be supported and challenged in a faith filled, welcoming and inclusive environment, underpinned by best practice and high expectations."*

## Policy Commitments

- All children have the right to feel and be safe
- Our school teaches children skills to understand and maintain their personal safety and wellbeing
- Our school listens to children, taking their view seriously, and addressing any concerns that they raise with us
- Our school will communicate honestly and openly with parents and carers about the wellbeing and safety of their children
- Our school will listen to the views of staff, children and our community about our child-safety practice, policy and procedures
- We will listen to all concerns voiced about keeping children and young people safe from harm



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## Expectation for our school staff

- All adults in our school have a responsibility to care for children, to promote wellbeing and keep them safe
- Our school has a Code of Conduct for all adults. It states the expectations for adults working, volunteering or visiting our school.



## Student participation



Our School actively encourages all students to express their views and feel comfortable about giving voice to the things that are important to them

## Reporting and Responding

Our School respects children's views and their privacy. If a child has a concern and reports this to a staff member they will take the appropriate action. All staff have a Child Safe Folder that has all the policies and guidance on how to respond.





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## Recruitment



Our school follows the Catholic Education Commission of Victoria (CEVC) guidelines to employ staff.

## Professional Learning for Staff

Staff, volunteers and visitors to St Monica's Primary School have an induction so they can understand their responsibility to Child Safety.

Staff, volunteers and visitors will have regular training updates to make sure they understand the Government requirements for Child Safety.



## Risk Management

All staff are responsible for identifying and managing risks to student safety  
All staff have a Child Safe Folder with policies and guidance.  
Children must let an adult know if they see a risk.





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## **Related Legislation**

- Children, Youth and Families Act 2005 (Vic.)
- Working with Children Act 2005 (Vic.)
- Education and Training Reform Act 2006 (Vic.)
- Equal Opportunity Act 2010 (Vic.)
- Privacy Act 1988 (Cth)
- Crimes Act 1958 (Vic.) – including 2015 updates of offences

## **References**

- Catholic Education Commission of Victoria Ltd (CECV) 2016, Commitment Statement to Child Safety: A safe and nurturing culture for all children and young people in Catholic schools.
- Catholic Education Commission of Victoria Ltd (CECV) 2013, Victorian Catholic Education Multi Enterprise Agreement 2013, CECV.
- Safe Schools Hub 2014, National Safe Schools Framework Glossary, Australian Government Department of Education and Training.
- State of Victoria 2016, Child Safe Standards – Managing the Risk of Child Abuse in Schools: Ministerial Order No. 870, Education & Training Reform Act 2006, Victorian Government Gazette No. S2.
- Victorian Government Department of Justice 2016, Betrayal of Trust Implementation