



Executive Summary

Statement of Commitment to Child Safety and Wellbeing

All children and young people who come to St John's College have a right to feel and be safe. We are committed to the safety and wellbeing of all children and young people. We are committed to providing a child safe and child friendly environment, where children and young people are safe and feel safe and are able to actively participate in decisions that affect their lives.

We have a zero tolerance for child abuse and other harm and are committed to acting in students' best interests and keeping them safe from harm.

The College regards its Child Safety responsibilities with the utmost importance and is committed to providing the necessary resources to ensure compliance with all relevant child protection laws and regulations and maintaining a child safe culture.

Each member of the College community has a responsibility to understand the important and specific role that they play individually, and collectively, to ensure that the wellbeing and safety of all students is at the forefront of all that they do, and every decision that they make.

The Child Safety Program

This Child Safety Program is made up of work systems, practices, policies, and procedures designed to maintain a child safe environment and to embed an organisational culture of child safety within the College community.

The Program deals specifically with creating and maintaining a child safe organisation, including child protection issues. It is designed to ensure compliance with:

- the Victorian Child Safe Standards
- Ministerial Order No. 870, made under the Education and Training Reform Act 2006 (Vic)
- the National Principles for Child Safe Organisations published by the Australia Human Rights Commission.
- child protection laws and regulations in Victoria.

Broader child safety issues arising from our common law duty of care are dealt with through our Student Duty of Care Program.

If you have a belief or suspicion that a child is being, or has been, subjected to any form of abuse you must contact Child Protection.

Where you need guidance on making a report or have questions regarding child safety, contact one of the College's appointed Child Safety Officers.

Whenever there are concerns that a child is in immediate danger the Police should be called on 000.

Quick Access Documents

Department of Education and Training and Department of Health and Human Services Child Protection, Four Critical Actions for Schools: Responding to Incidents, Disclosures or Suspicions of Child Abuse, 2018

Department of Education and Training and Department of Health and Human Services Child Protection, Responding to Suspected Child Abuse: A Template for all Victorian Schools, 2018