



Sacred Heart Catholic Primary School

CHILD PROTECTION POLICY

For Vision and Mission Statement please click hyperlink below:

[VISION AND MISSION STATEMENT](#)

This policy is to be read in conjunction with the [Diocese of Wagga 'Safe Schools: Child Protection Policy.'](#)

RATIONALE

All children have a right to feel and be safe. Teachers with reasonable grounds for suspecting that a student has, or will be, exposed to injury through maltreatment have moral and legal responsibilities to report the situation to an officer of the appropriate authority.

AIMS

To ensure that children's rights to be safe are maintained and that each child is protected against injury resulting from physical, psychological or sexual abuse.

IMPLEMENTATION

- adopts and implements the CSO's [Child Protection Code of Professional Standards.](#)
- Staff are informed annually at the commencement of each school year of their legal responsibilities as mandatory reporters. Staff are required to complete annual child protection professional learning as organised by Catholic Education Diocese of Wagga Wagga.
- Sacred Heart, through the CSO, screens all employees.
- Staff will discuss and participate in Child Protection Legislation training as required.
- Sacred Heart ensures volunteers, contractors and tutors have submitted relevant child protection documentation.
- The principal and staff have a duty to report any suspicion if there are reasonable grounds or injury to students through maltreatment/neglect.
- It is mandatory for teachers who suspect child abuse to report concerns to the Principal.
- Teachers who have reasonable grounds for suspecting a child has suffered maltreatment, or that there is substantial risk that the child will suffer maltreatment, can lawfully make such a report without fear of legal repercussion.
- The Principal will follow procedures to inform Department of Community and Family Services of any suspected abuse informed by the Mandatory Reporter Guide.
- All details will be fully documented and retained.
- Confidentiality will be maintained at all times.
- Subsequent concerns about the same child will also be brought to the attention of the Principal.

Sacred Heart Primary School has adopted the diocesan policy and it can be viewed by clicking the below link.

[LEGAL RESPONSIBILITIES FOR DUTY OF CARE FOR STUDENTS, incorporating After School.](#)

SCHOOL VOLUNTEERS

The school follows the Diocesan Policy on Volunteers. Prior to commencing any volunteer **who is not the parent or a close relative of a child at the school**, or who works in a high risk role will need to undertake the WORKING WITH CHILDREN CHECK which can be obtained online, from a motor registry or government access centre. There is no cost to the volunteer to obtain this check.

Reviewed 2018
To be reviewed 2021