

# ST JOSEPH'S PRIMARY SCHOOL

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## CHILD PROTECTION POLICY

### **Mission Statement:**

**We believe that St Joseph's School is a faith community within the Parish of St Mel's where;**

- Individuals are valued with Jesus as their model and guide;
- Gospel values are fostered and developed within the mission of the Catholic Church;
- The potential of each child is recognised and developed in the spirit of love and truth;
- All members of the School Community are challenged to uphold Christian ideals within our society.

**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](#).
- St Josephs, through the CSO, screen all employees.
- Staff will discuss and participate in Child Protection Legislation training as required.
- St Joseph's ensures volunteers have submitted relevant child protection forms.
- Principals or teachers have a duty to report any suspicion if there are reasonable grounds or injury to students through maltreatment.
- 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 and/or staff member will contact DOCS to report any abuse
- 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.

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

St Joseph's Primary School has adopted the diocesan policy and it can be viewed by clicking the above title.

### **SCHOOL VOLUNTEERS.**

The school follows the Diocesan Policy on Volunteers and the forms for Volunteers to complete can be located at [Volunteer Declaration](#). Prior to commencing any volunteer all members of the community who will be interacting with children will be required to complete and submit this form.

### **ANNUAL ONLINE TRAINING.**

Annual online child protection training is compulsory for all staff members. The Principal is notified by the Catholic Schools Office of staff members who have not completed this training. The Principal is responsible for following this matter up with staff members.

### **EVALUATION OF STATEMENT**

This Statement was reviewed and redeveloped in line with the Catholic School's requirements for registration 2014