

Bayswater Secondary College Child Safety Strategies Policy

The school will implement the following child safe strategies:

School Governing Authority (School Council) will

- Communicate that it has **zero tolerance of child abuse**
- Participate in the development and enhancement of child safety strategies through ongoing review of the effectiveness of practice
- Ensure that an appropriate reporting process is in place for child abuse that includes overseeing outcomes
- Oversee the implementation and improvement of child safety strategies
- Communicate with the school community about the school's child safety strategies and their implementation
- Report on child safety in the school annual report

School Staff (including contractors and volunteers) will

- Be aware of the school child safety strategies and allocated roles and responsibilities
- Include checking for child safety with all pre-employment reference checks
- Confirm currency of criminal history checks, Working with Children Check/Victorian Institute of Teaching registration
- Query gaps in employment history
- Be inducted in child safety
- Ensure child safety is a standing item for discussion at staff meetings
- Be trained to detect inappropriate behaviour
- Be encouraged to report inappropriate behaviour
- Foster a culture of openness

Children will

- Be made aware and encouraged to report inappropriate behaviour
- Be made aware that the chaplain and principal can be approached in relation to child safety
- Be reassured that the school has child safety reporting procedures
- Be able to access counselling and other resources provided by the school

Environment

- The school has child safety strategies in place for all physical school environments, that include:
 - Regularly reviewing the physical environment to ensure all risks are identified and managed
 - Assessing new or changed physical environments for child safety risks
 - Supervising or monitoring activities
- The school has child safety strategies for its online environment including:
 - Clear boundaries of roles between staff and children
 - Proactive strategies to detect inappropriate behaviour such as online searches (e.g. Google, Facebook, etc.)
- Visitors are appropriately screened, supervised and made aware of the school's child safety strategies

Ratified by Bayswater Secondary College School Council – August 2016