



'Balit Yirramboi'
Dohertys Creek P-9 College
TRUGANINA

COMMITMENT TO CHILD SAFETY

[Child Safe Standards 1 & 2]

PURPOSE

- To ensure Dohertys Creek College complies with the legislative requirements of MO 870.
- To ensure the school demonstrates its commitment to creating a child safe culture.
- To protect children and reduce any opportunities for child abuse or harm to occur.
- To assist in understanding how to avoid or better manage risky behaviours and situations.
- To raise awareness within the school community of the importance of child safety.
- To ensure the school discharges its duty of care towards children.

SCOPE

This policy is intended for School Leadership, staff, School Council, parents/carers, visitors, volunteers and contractors.

POLICY

The safety and wellbeing of children is the highest priority for Dohertys Creek College. In its planning, decision making and operations, Dohertys Creek College will:

- Take a preventative, proactive and participatory approach to child safety;
- Value and empower children to participate in decisions which affect their lives;
- Foster a culture of openness that supports all persons to safely disclose risks of harm to children;
- Respect diversity in cultures and child rearing practices while keeping child safety paramount;
- Provide written guidance on appropriate conduct and behaviour towards children;
- Engage only the most suitable people to work with children and have high quality staff and volunteer supervision and professional development;
- Ensure children know who to talk with if they are worried or are feeling unsafe, and that they are comfortable and encouraged to raise such issues;
- Report suspected abuse, neglect or mistreatment promptly to the appropriate authorities;
- Share information appropriately and lawfully with other organisations where the safety and wellbeing of children is at risk; and
- Value the input and communicate regularly with families and carers.

REVIEW PERIOD

This policy will be reviewed every two years as part of the VRQA requirements, if an incident occurs or if guidelines change (latest PROTECT update 11 April 2018). The review will include input from students, parents/carers and the school community.

This policy was last updated on 20th February, 2019 and is scheduled for review on February, 2021.

References:

Creating a Child Safe Organisation Guide
Child Safe Standards Toolkit

www.education.vic.gov.au/school/Principals/spag/safety/Pages/childsafestandards.aspx
and

Protect – Identifying All Forms of Child Abuse in Victorian Schools April 2018

www.vrqa.vic.gov.au/childsafe