



## Child Safety Code of Conduct

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| Purpose:          | To protect children and reduce any opportunities for child abuse or harm to occur |
| Scope:            | WP Board and all Team members   |
| Implemented by:   | Principal   |
| Approved by:      | WP Board  |
| Reviewed:         | Every 2 years or as regulatory changes arise or improvements are identified       |
| Communicated via: | Policies and Procedures Master File   |

Woodline Primary is committed to the safety and wellbeing of children. Our school community recognises the importance of and a responsibility for, ensuring our school is a safe, supportive and enriching environment that respects and fosters the dignity and self-esteem of children and enables them to thrive in their learning and development.

This Child Safety Code of Conduct aims to protect children and reduce any opportunities for child abuse or harm to occur. It also assists in understanding how to avoid or better manage risky behaviours and situations. It is intended to complement child protection legislation, school policies and procedures and professional standards, codes or ethics as these apply to Team members and other personnel.

The Principal of Woodline Primary will support implementation and monitoring of the Child Safety Code of Conduct and will plan, implement and monitor arrangements to provide an inclusive, safe and orderly school. The Principal will also provide information and support to enable the Child Safety Code of Conduct to operate effectively.

All school community members involved in child-related work are required to comply with the Child Safety Code of Conduct by observing expectations for appropriate behaviour below. The Child Safety Code of Conduct applies in all school situations, including school camps and in the use of digital technology and social media.

### ACCEPTABLE BEHAVIOURS

As Woodline community members involved in child-related work individually, we are responsible for supporting and promoting the safety of children by:

- upholding the school's commitment to child safety at all times



- treating children and families in the school community with respect, both within the school environment and outside the school environment as part of normal social and community activities
- listening and responding to the views and concerns of children, particularly if they are telling you that they or another child has been abused or that they are worried about their safety/the safety of another child
- promoting the cultural safety, participation and empowerment of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children
- promoting the cultural safety, participation and empowerment of children with culturally and/or linguistically diverse backgrounds
- promoting the safety, participation and empowerment of children with a disability
- reporting any allegations of child abuse or other child safety concerns to the school Principal or if the allegation involves the Principal, then the Chair of the Board
- understanding and complying with all reporting or disclosure obligations (including mandatory reporting) as they relate to protecting children from harm or abuse
- if child abuse is suspected, ensuring as quickly as possible that the child/ren are safe and protected from harm

## UNACCEPTABLE BEHAVIOURS

School community members involved in child-related work must not:

- ignore or disregard any concerns, suspicions or disclosures of child abuse
- develop a relationship with any child that could be seen as favouritism or amount to 'grooming' behaviour (for example, offering gifts)
- exhibit behaviours or engage in activities with children which may be interpreted as abusive and not justified by the educational, therapeutic, or service delivery context
- ignore behaviours by other adults towards children when they appear to be overly familiar or inappropriate
- discuss content of an intimate nature or use sexual innuendo with children, except where it occurs relevantly in the context of parental guidance, delivering the education curriculum or a therapeutic setting
- treat a child unfavourably because of their disability, age, gender, race, culture, vulnerability, sexuality or ethnicity
- communicate directly with a child through personal or private contact channels (including by social media, email, instant messaging, texting etc) except where that communication is reasonable in all the circumstances, related to learning or extra-curricular activities or where there is a safety concern or other urgent matter
- photograph or video a child in a school environment except in accordance with school policy or where required for duty of care purposes
- in the school environment or at other school events where children are present, consume alcohol contrary to school policy or take illicit drugs under any circumstances



**Process for raising concerns:**

If a person has a concern regarding an adult behaving inappropriately:

- Inform the Principal immediately
- If the adult behaving inappropriately is the Principal, report to Chair of the Board

The Principal or Chair of the Board will determine appropriate actions.

Communications will be treated confidentially on a 'need to know basis'.

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

Table of Amendments

| Version number        | Date          | Short description of amendment      |
|-----------------------|---------------|-------------------------------------|
| 1.0                   | June 2020     | new policy                          |
| 2.0                   | December 2022 | Improvements identified and updated |
| 3.0                   | December 2023 | No updates required                 |
| Scheduled review date |               | December 2025                       |