

CHILD SAFETY

CHILD SAFE STANDARD: STATEMENT OF COMMITMENT TO CHILD SAFETY

PURPOSE:

Pakenham Consolidated School is committed to providing a child safe environment where all children and young people have the right to feel safe, welcome and appreciated,

Pakenham Consolidated School has zero tolerance for child abuse.

Pakenham Consolidated School is committed to providing a child safe environment where all children and young people have the right to feel safe, welcome and appreciate, have their voices heard about decisions that affect their lives as well as be themselves as we all work together as one community.

Pakenham Consolidated School explicitly prohibits Corporal Punishment and must NOT be used at the School under any circumstances.

SCOPE:

Particular attention will be paid to the cultural safety of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Island children and children from culturally and/or linguistically diverse backgrounds, as well as the safety of children with a disability.

Every person involved in Pakenham Consolidated School has a responsibility to understand the important and specific role they play individually and collectively. Ensuring that the wellbeing and safety of all children and young people is at the forefront of all they do and every decision they make.

POLICY:

Pakenham Consolidated School 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 support 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 volunteers for 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
- Value the input of and communicate regularly with families and carers

REVIEW CYCLE AND EVALUATION

This policy was last updated August 2020 and is scheduled for review in August 2022.