

CHILD SAFETY CODE OF CONDUCT

POLICY

Rationale:

To promote child safety in the school environment we acknowledge the following:

All students have a right to:

- Feel safe, learn, belong and have fun
- Take part in learning programs that meet their individual needs
- Feel safe and secure in a caring and supportive environment
- Work and play without interference in an atmosphere of harmony and cooperation
- Receive respect, kindness and courtesy and to be treated with fairness
- Have continuous learning without disruption in a supportive environment
- Be valued for their individuality including; race, gender, cultural, physical or intellectual diversity
- Expect that the school's expectations are fair, consistently implemented and respect the rights of all involved
- To be safe in every aspect of daily life at school, including Out Of School Hours Programs, camps and excursions

All students have a responsibility to:

- Care and value themselves, others, teachers and the school community
- Be safety conscious in relation to themselves and others
- Take responsibility for their behaviours, actions and learning
- Treat others with respect and good manners
- Keep the guidelines of good behaviour, modelling and support the school expectations
- Develop a sense of accountability for their own actions
- Work to achieve their personal best, whilst allowing others to do the same
- Allow for others to learn and to respect the rights of others
- Explore their full potential in their learning

School staff adhere to the following standards about the ways in which they are expected to behave with children:

- Provide opportunities for all students to learn
- Treat their students with courtesy and dignity
- Work within the limits of their professional expertise
- Maintain objectivity in their relationships with students
- Build and maintain strong positive relationships with students and families
- Always act in a professional manner with the students in their school whether they are within school grounds or elsewhere

EAGLE POINT PRIMARY SCHOOL

• **Implementation:**

Procedures for responding to and reporting allegations of suspected child abuse

Forming a belief on reasonable grounds

- A person may form a belief on reasonable grounds that a child is in need of protection after becoming aware that a child or young person's health, safety or wellbeing is at risk

Reporting a belief

- Mandated staff members (*Teachers and Principals*) must make a report to Child Protection as soon as possible after forming a belief on reasonable grounds that a child or young person is in need of protection
- Staff members, **whether or not mandated**, need to report to the Principal or Assistant Principal their concern when the belief is formed in the course of undertaking their professional duties or from outside of school
- A report must be made as soon as practicable after forming the belief and on each occasion on which they become aware of any further reasonable grounds for the belief
- If one staff member has a different view from another staff member about making a report and the staff member continues to hold the belief that a child is in need of protection, that person is obliged to make a report

These procedures do not:

- prohibit or discourage school staff from reporting an allegation of child abuse to a person external to the school
- state or imply that it is the victim's responsibility to inform the police or other authorities of the allegation
- require staff to make a judgment about the truth of the allegation of child abuse; or
- prohibit staff from making records in relation to an allegation or disclosure of child abuse

Strategies to identify and reduce or remove risks of child abuse

Risk management strategies have been developed within the following school policies:

- *Mandatory Reporting Policy 2016*
- *Student Engagement Policy 2014*
- *Duty of Care Policy 2014*
- Ensure that all staff are up to date with the Department Mandatory Reporting Online Professional Development
- Ensure that we follow the staff selection checklist before any staff member is offered employment
- Ensure that our Sporting Schools Co-ordinators have a copy of our school policies
- Provide a safe environment that staff can come and discuss their child safety concerns with the Principal
- Provide students regularly with exposure to numbers such as Kids Helpline and Emergency Services

