

CASTLEMAINE NORTH PRIMARY SCHOOL CHILD SAFE POLICY

RATIONALE

Castlemaine North Primary School is committed to safety and wellbeing of all children and young people. This will be the primary focus of our care and decision-making. Castlemaine North Primary School has zero tolerance for child abuse.

Castlemaine North Primary School is committed to providing a child safe environment where children and young people are safe and feel safe, and their voices are heard about decisions that affect their lives.

Particular attention will be paid to the cultural safety of Aboriginal children and children from culturally and/or linguistically diverse backgrounds, as well as the safety of children with a disability. Every person involved in Castlemaine North Primary School has a responsibility to understand the important and specific role he/she plays individually and collectively to ensure that the wellbeing and safety of all children and young people is at the forefront of all they do and every decision they make.

AIMS

In its planning, decision-making and operations Castlemaine North Primary School will

1. Take a preventative, proactive and participatory approach to child safety;
2. Value and empower children to participate in decisions which affect their lives;
3. Foster a culture of openness that supports all persons to safely disclose risks of harm to children
4. Respect diversity in cultures and child rearing practices while keeping child safety paramount;
5. Provide guidance on appropriate conduct and behaviour towards children through relevant school policies;
6. Engage only the most suitable people to work with children and have high quality staff and volunteer supervision and professional development;
7. 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;
8. Report suspected abuse, neglect or mistreatment promptly to the appropriate authorities;
9. Share information appropriately and lawfully with other organisations where the safety and wellbeing of children is at risk; and
10. Value the input of and communicate regularly with families and carers

REFERENCES

1. CNPS Child Safety – Code of Conduct
2. CNPS Student Wellbeing and Engagement Policy
3. CNPS Volunteers Policy and Volunteers Induction Booklet
4. CNPS External Providers Policy

EVALUATION

This policy will be reviewed as part of the school's annual review cycle.

This policy was reviewed and ratified by School Council 2016.

(Principal)

(President of School Council)

Date: 2016
Review Cycle Date: 2017