



MIDDLE KINGLAKE PRIMARY SCHOOL

CHILD SAFETY CODE OF CONDUCT POLICY

Purpose

Our Child Safety Code of Conduct sets out the expected behaviour of adults with children and young people in our school.

All Middle Kinglake Primary School staff, volunteers, contractors, service providers, school council members and any other adult involved in child-connected work must follow the Child Safety Code of Conduct.

The Child Safety Code of Conduct applies to all physical and online environments used by students. It also applies during outside of school hours and in other locations provided by the school for student use (for example, a school camp).

Acceptable behaviours

As Middle Kinglake Primary School, staff, volunteers, contractors, and any other member of our school community involved in child-connected work, we are responsible for supporting and promoting the safety of children by:

- Upholding our MKPS commitment to child safety at all times and adhering to our Child Safety and Wellbeing Policy
- Treating students and families in our school community with respect in our school environment and outside our school environment as part of normal social and community activities
- Listening and responding to the views and concerns of students, particularly if they disclose that they or another child or student has been abused or are worried about their safety or the safety of another child or student
- Promoting the cultural safety, participation and empowerment of Aboriginal students, students with culturally and/or linguistically diverse backgrounds, students with a disability, international students, students who are unable to live at home and LGBTIQ+ students
- Ensuring, as far as practicable, that adults are not alone with a student- one-to-one interactions between an adult and a student are in an open space or in line of sight of another adult
- Reporting any allegations of child abuse or other child safety concerns to Middle Kinglake Primary School Safety Officer/Principal
- Understanding and complying with all reporting and disclosure obligations (including mandatory reporting) in line with our child safety responding and reporting policy and procedures (add link to policy when finished) and the [PROTECT Four Critical Actions](#)

- If child abuse is suspected, ensuring as quickly as possible that the student(students) are safe and protected from harm.
- encouraging children to 'have a say' and participate in all relevant organisational activities where possible, especially on issues that are important to them.

Unacceptable behaviours

As Middle Kinglake Primary School, staff, volunteers, contractors and members of our school community involved in child-connected work we must not:

- ignore or disregard any concerns, suspicions or disclosures of child abuse or harm
- develop a relationship with any student that could be seen as favouritism or amount to 'grooming' behaviour (for example, by offering gifts)
- display behaviours or engage with students in ways that are not justified by the educational or professional context
- ignore an adult's overly familiar or inappropriate behaviour towards a student
- discuss intimate topics or use sexualised language, except when needed to deliver the school curriculum or professional guidance
- treat a child or student unfavourably because of their disability, age, gender, race, culture, vulnerability, sexuality or ethnicity
- put children at risk of abuse (for example, by locking doors)
- do things of a personal nature that a child can do for themselves, such as toileting or changing clothes
- engage in open discussions of a mature or adult nature in the presence of children (for example, personal social activities)
- use inappropriate language in the presence of children
- express personal views on cultures, race or sexuality in the presence of children
- communicate directly with a student 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 schoolwork 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 the [Photographing, Filming and Recording Students policy](#) or where required for duty of care purposes
- consume alcohol against school policy or take illicit drugs in the school environment or at events where students are present
- have contact with any student outside of school hours except when needed to deliver the school curriculum or professional guidance and parental permission has been sought. For example, no babysitting. Accidental contact, such as seeing people in the street, is appropriate.

Breaches to the Child Safety Code of Conduct

All Middle Kinglake Primary School staff, volunteers, contractors and any other member of the school community involved in child-connected work who breach this Child Safety Code of Conduct may be subject to disciplinary procedures in accordance with their employment agreement or relevant industrial instrument, professional code or terms of engagement.

In instances where a reportable allegation has been made, the matter will be managed in accordance with the Department of Education and Training Reportable Conduct Scheme Policy and may be subject to referral to Victoria Police.

By observing these standards you acknowledge your responsibility to immediately report any breach or suspected breach of this code to Middle Kinglake Primary School Child Safety Officer /Principal

If you believe a child is at immediate risk of abuse phone 000.

Approval and review

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Consultation	School Council- 23/8/2022
Endorsed by	School Council
Endorsed on	23/8/2022
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