

Child Safe Code of Conduct

All staff, volunteers and school councillors of Jennings Street School are required to observe child safe principles and expectations for appropriate behaviour towards and in the company of children, as noted below.

For a list of relevant definitions see link to Ministerial Order No. 870

<http://www.gazette.vic.gov.au/gazette/Gazettes2016/GG2016S002.pdf>

All personnel of Jennings Street School are responsible for supporting the safety, participation, wellbeing and empowerment of children by:

- Adhering to the Jennings Street School child safe policy at all times / upholding the Jennings Street School statement of commitment to child safety at all times
- Taking all reasonable steps to protect children from abuse
- Treating everyone with respect
- Listening and responding to the views and concerns of children, particularly if they are telling you that they or another child has been abused and/or are worried about their safety or the safety of another
- Promoting the cultural safety, participation and empowerment of Aboriginal children (for example, by never questioning an Aboriginal child's self-identification)
- Promoting the cultural safety, participation and empowerment of children with culturally and/or linguistically diverse backgrounds (for example, by having a zero tolerance of discrimination)
- Promoting the safety, participation and empowerment of children with a disability (for example, during personal care activities)
- Ensuring as far as practicable that adults are not left alone with a child
- Reporting any allegations of child abuse to the Jennings Street School Child Safety Officer / leadership, and ensure any allegation is reported to the police or child protection
- Reporting any child safety concerns to the Jennings Street School Child Safety Officer / leadership
- If an allegation of child abuse is made, ensure as quickly as possible that the child(ren) are safe
- Encouraging children to 'have a say' and participate in all relevant organisational activities where possible, especially on issues that are important to them.



Staff and volunteers must not:

- Develop any 'special' relationships with children that could be seen as favouritism (for example, the offering of gifts or special treatment for specific children)
- Exhibit behaviours with children which may be construed as unnecessarily physical.
- Put children at risk of abuse (for example, by locking doors)
- Do things of a personal nature which 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 a child
- Express personal views on cultures, race or sexuality in the presence of a child
- Discriminate against any child based on culture, race, ethnicity, or disability
- Have contact with a child or their family outside of our organisation without the child safety officer's knowledge and/or consent (for example, no babysitting). Accidental contact, such as seeing people in the street, is appropriate
- Have any online contact with a child or their family using personal phone numbers, email or social media accounts
- Ignore or disregard any suspected or disclosed child abuse.

By observing these standards you acknowledge your responsibility to immediately report any breach of this code to the Jennings Street School Child Safety Officer / leadership.

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

Refer to PROTECT DET Website.

I agree to adhere to this Code of Conduct:

Full Name:

Signature:

Date:



EVALUATION

This policy will be reviewed annually or more often if necessary due to changes in regulations or circumstances.

Date Implemented	October 25 th 2016
Author	Rosemary Hayes
Approved By	Policy Sub committee
Approval Authority (Signature & Date)	
Date Reviewed	18.08.2021
Responsible for Review	Policy Subcommittee of school council
Review Date	August 2022
References	

25.10.2016 – v0 – date of implementation

29.08.2018 – v1 – reformat; update footer; remove name of Child Safety Officer.

22.08.2019 – v2 – added link to DET

v18.08.2021 update footer and evaluation box