



St Columba's Primary School

The little school with a big heart

St Columba's Primary School Child Safety Policy

Student Version

Introduction

We are the little school with the big heart.

At St. Columba's we will strive to keep each other safe.

The school helps and looks after all students, staff and members of our community, understanding and accepting everyone's differences, gifts and talents.

This school has many ways to keep us from harm.

Purpose

The teachers and school community are committed to keeping children safe.

This means that the children at this school feel safe and know they can share their feelings and worries and they will be listened to.

The teachers and staff in the school know what to do if a student says that they feel unsafe.

Principles

Everyone has the right to be safe and be protected from unsafe behaviours.

No one should behave in a way that makes you feel unsafe or afraid, including anyone in your family, anyone at your school or in the community.

Commitment to Child Safety

All children attending St. Columba's have the right to feel safe.

The school does not tolerate bullying or any kind of unsafe behaviour.

Children at St. Columba's School have the opportunity to meet, talk and be listened to.

Code of Conduct

St. Columba's makes sure there is a Code of Conduct for all teachers, Learning Support Officers, receptionists, parish staff, emergency teachers, parent helpers, other volunteers and workers. This clearly outlines the behaviour that they need to demonstrate.

Inclusion and Empowerment for all Students

All staff at our school help children to understand that they have the right to feel safe.

Social Emotional Learning helps us to understand ourselves, our behaviours and our rights.



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The SRC play an important role in making sure that children at our school have a voice and can help make decisions.

Children at St. Columba's know that they can always tell someone they trust about their worries or concerns, that they will be listened to and that they will be helped.

Hiring Staff and Staff Training

Before employing staff and helpers, St. Columba's checks the background to see if the person is suitable to work with children.

Some of the things the school does to make sure a person is right for the school are:

- Check if there is a police criminal record
- They can be given a trial time before becoming part of our school community
- Make sure that they sign the Code of Conduct
- Make sure they are committed to our school beliefs
- Make sure they follow the rules
- Ensure that they have a Working With Children Check
- See what they did for their last job
- Talk to the people that worked with them last to see if they are safe people
- Before they start at St. Columba's they get more information and training about Child Safety
- All staff at St. Columba's regularly complete training about Child Safety

Risk Management

St. Columba's knows that it is important to keep our school safe.

The school looks for any problems or risks to child safety and immediately takes action.

We should always tell someone if we see a risk.

Created by the 2018 SRC

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Ratified by the 2021 SRC members on 24th June 2021