

# Child Safe

# PROTECT

Protecting children & young people  
from abuse is our responsibility



On 26 November 2015, the Victorian Parliament passed the Child Wellbeing and Safety Amendment (Child Safe Standards) Bill 2015, which amended the Child Safety and Wellbeing Act 2005 to introduce the Child Safe Standards that would apply to all organisations involved in child related work in Victoria.

There are 7 Child Safe Standards which are compulsory minimum standards for all Victorian schools, to ensure they are well prepared to protect children from abuse and neglect. The 7 Standards are:

1. Strategies to embed an organisational culture of child safety, including through effective leadership arrangements
2. A child safe policy or statement of commitment to child safety
3. A code of conduct that establishes clear expectations for appropriate behaviour with children
4. Screening, supervision, training and other human resources practices that reduce the risk of child abuse by new and existing personnel
5. Processes for responding to and reporting suspected child abuse
6. Strategies to identify and reduce or remove risks of child abuse
7. Strategies to promote the participation and empowerment of children.

Bonbeach Primary School is committed to child safety and to our children being principled, caring, balanced members of our community. We are committed to the safety, participation and empowerment of our children and have zero tolerance of child abuse. All allegations and safety concerns will be treated very seriously and consistently. We have legal and moral obligations to contact authorities when we are worried about a child's safety, which we follow rigorously. The school is committed to regularly training and educating our staff and volunteers on child abuse risks and all staff undertake Mandatory Reporting training.

We support and respect all children, as well as our staff and volunteers, and are committed to the cultural safety of children from diverse backgrounds, and to providing a safe environment for children with a disability.

Bonbeach Primary School has the following Policies and documents in place to meet the Child Safe Standards:

- Child Safe Policy
- Child Safe Responding and Reporting Policy (including mandatory reporting)
- Child Safe Code of Conduct for Staff and Volunteers
- Statement of Commitment to Child Safety
- Volunteers Policy
- Working with Children's Checks Policy
- External Providers Policy

All of the above policies and documents have recently been reviewed and updated in line with our policy review schedule. These policies have been updated on our school website. All of these documents can be found on our website under the 'Child Safe' tab and the policies can also be found under the 'Policies' tab. We encourage all families to familiarise themselves with these documents.