

Timboon P-12 School

Child Safety Code of Conduct

This Child Safety Code of Conduct outlines appropriate standards of behaviour for all adults towards students. The Code serves to protect students, reduce any opportunities for abuse or harm to occur, and promote child safety in the School environment. Our commitment is drawn from our school values: 'Timboon P-12 School is a school where relationships are based on trust and mutual respect: Where the contributions of all are valued and acknowledged'.

All staff, volunteers and School Council members of Timboon P-12 School are required to observe child safe principles and expectations for appropriate behaviour towards and in the company of children, as noted below. Timboon P-12 School has adopted a Child Safety Statement that articulates our zero tolerance of child abuse.

All personnel of Timboon P-12 School are responsible for supporting the safety, participation, wellbeing and empowerment of children by:

DO

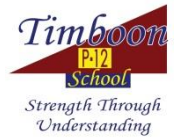
- adhering to Timboon P-12 School child safe policy at all times and upholding to our statement of commitment to child safety at all time
- taking all reasonable steps to protect children from abuse
- treating everyone with respect
- listening and responding to the views and concerns of children, particularly 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 Leadership team and ensuring that any allegations are reported to the police or child protection
- understanding and complying with all reporting obligations as they relate to mandatory reporting and reporting under the Crimes Act 1958
- 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

DO NOT

- ignore or disregard any suspected or disclosed child abuse
- 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 (for example inappropriate sitting on laps. Sitting on laps could be appropriate sometime, for example while reading a storybook to a small child in an open plan area)
- 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
- discriminate against any child, including because of culture, race, ethnicity or disability
- have contact with a child or their family outside of our organisation without our child safety officer's knowledge and/or consent (for example, unauthorised after hours tutoring, private music lessons/sport

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coaching, no babysitting). Accidental contact, such as seeing people in the street, is appropriate). This clause is not intended to prevent contact at community events or through community organisations.

- have any online contact with a child or their family (unless necessary, for example providing families with e-newsletters or assisting students with their school work)
- exchange personal contact details such as phone number, social networking sites or personal email addresses
- photograph or video a child without the consent of the parent or guardians
- work with children whilst under the influence of alcohol or illegal drugs
- consume alcohol or drugs at school or school events in the presence of children

By observing these standards you acknowledge your responsibility to immediately report any breach of this code to Timboon P-12 School leadership team.

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

I agree to adhere to this Code of Conduct:

Name:

Signature:

Date: