



# Child Safety Code of Conduct

Knox Park Primary School is committed to the safety and wellbeing of children and young people. Our school community recognises the importance of, and are responsible for, ensuring our school is a safe, supportive and enriching environment which respects and fosters the dignity and self-esteem of children and young people, and enables them to thrive in their learning and development.

This Code of Conduct aims to protect children and reduce any opportunities for child abuse or harm to occur. It also assists in understanding how to avoid or better manage risky behaviours and situations. It is intended to complement child protection legislation, Department policy, school policies and procedures and professional standards, codes or ethics as these apply to staff and other personnel.

The Principal and school leaders of Knox Park Primary School will support implementation and monitoring of the Code of Conduct, and will plan, implement and monitor arrangements to provide inclusive, safe and orderly schools and other learning environments. The Principal and school leaders of Knox Park Primary School will also provide information and support to enable the Code of Conduct to operate effectively.

All staff, contractors, volunteers and any other member of the school community involved in child-related work are required to comply with the Code of Conduct by observing expectations for appropriate behaviour below. The Code of Conduct applies in all school situations, including school camps and in the use of digital technology and social media.

All staff and volunteers involved in child-related work at Knox Park PS are responsible for supporting the safety, participation, wellbeing and empowerment of children by:

- adhering to Knox Park PS child safe policy at all times / upholding Knox Park PS statement of commitment to child safety at all time
- holding a valid Working With Children's Check or Victorian Teacher's Registration card
- treating students and families in the school community with respect both within the school environment and outside the school environment as part of normal social and community activities
- 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 children with culturally and/or linguistically diverse backgrounds
- promoting the safety, participation and empowerment of children with a disability ensuring as far as practicable that adults are not left alone with a child
- reporting any allegations of child abuse or safety concerns to the police or child protection and ensure any allegation is also reported to the Principal or Assistant Principal
- understanding and complying with all reporting or disclosure obligations (including mandatory reporting) as they relate to protecting children from harm or abuse
- ensuring children are safe if child abuse is suspected, without delay.

Staff and volunteers must not:

- ignore or disregard any suspected or disclosed child abuse.
- develop any 'special' relationships with children that could be seen as favouritism
- exhibit behaviours with children which may be construed as unnecessarily physical or which may be interpreted as abusive and not justified by the educational, therapeutic or service delivery context
- photograph or video a child in a school environment except in accordance with school policy or where required for duty of care purposes
- in the school environment or at other school events where students are present, consume alcohol contrary to school policy or take illicit drugs under any circumstances
- ignore behaviours by other adults towards students when they appear to be overly familiar or inappropriate
- discuss content of an intimate nature or use sexual innuendo with students, except where it occurs relevantly in the context of parental guidance, delivering the education curriculum or a therapeutic setting
- treat a child unfavourably because of their disability, age, gender, race, culture, vulnerability, sexuality or ethnicity.
- have any online contact with a child (unless necessary for educational purposes).

I agree to adhere to this Code of Conduct:

Name: .....

Signature: .....

Date: .....