



STATEMENT OF COMMITMENT TO CHILD SAFETY AND CHILD SAFETY PRINCIPLES

Springside Primary School is a child-safe organisation that welcomes all children, young people and their families.

We are committed to providing a learning environment where our students are safe and feel safe, where their participation is valued, their views respected, and their voices are heard about decisions that affect their lives. Our child-safe policies, strategies and practices are inclusive of the needs of all children and students.

We have no tolerance for child abuse and take proactive steps to identify and manage any risks of harm to students in our school environments.

We promote positive relationships between students and adults and between students and their peers. These relationships are based on trust and respect.

We have clear and high expectations of behaviour for all staff and volunteers as outlined in Springside Primary School's Code of Conduct which is accessible on our school's website and at reception.

We take proactive steps to identify and manage any risk of harm to students in our school environment. When child safety concerns are raised or identified, we treat these seriously and respond promptly and thoroughly by documenting the risk of child abuse on Springside Primary School's Risk Register and listing future actions to reduce the risk of abuse.

Particular attention is given to the child safety needs of Aboriginal students, those from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds, international students, students with disabilities, those unable to live at home, children and young people who identify as lesbian, gay, bisexual, trans and gender diverse, intersex and queer (LGBTIQ+) and other students experiencing risk or vulnerability. Inappropriate or harmful behaviour targeting students based on these or other characteristics, such as racism or homophobia, is not tolerated at our school, and any instances identified will be addressed with appropriate consequences.

Child safety is a shared responsibility. Every person involved in our school has an important role in promoting child safety, wellbeing and promptly raising any issues or concerns about a child's safety.

We are committed to regularly reviewing our child safe practices, and seeking input from our students, families, staff, and volunteers to inform our ongoing strategies that are endorsed by the school governing authority and are periodically reviewed for their effectiveness. We encourage external scrutiny, enabling the identification of opportunities for improvement.

At Springside Primary School we maintain a child safe culture that:

- has zero-tolerance for any forms of child abuse and is dedicated to acting in all children's best interests and to keeping them safe from harm at all times
- is committed to providing the necessary resources and training to guarantee compliance with all relevant child protection laws and regulations
- engages only the most suitable people to work with children to provide high-quality staff and volunteer supervision
- actively works to listen to, and empower children
- has protocols and policies to protect children from abuse and take all allegations and concerns seriously
- responds to children consistently in line with the school's policies and procedures
- is committed to promoting the physical, emotional and cultural safety of all children
- is committed to providing a safe environment for all children at all times.

Springside Primary School values are Respect, Optimism, Responsibility and Excellence.

Respect – We respect ourselves, our school and each another, and understand that our attitudes and behaviours have an impact on the people around us.

Optimism – We model and demonstrate Optimism by being hopeful and having confidence about the future and our success.

Responsibility – We show responsibility by demonstrating ownership of our actions and words. Being accountable for our actions.

Excellence – We strive for excellence, which means trying our hardest and doing our best.