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## CHILD SAFE POLICY

### **Rationale:**

Nanneella Estate Primary School is committed to providing a safe environment for all children and to protect them from any form of abuse or neglect. It is the school's responsibility to embed a culture of child safety throughout the entire school community and demonstrate zero tolerance of child abuse.

### **Aims:**

In order to assist each student to develop as a happy and healthy human being our school will:

- Develop strategies to embed a culture of child safety at the school
- Put strategies into practice throughout the school
- Inform the school community about the strategies and practices
- Regularly review the effectiveness of strategies and practices

### **Implementation:**

#### **STAFF**

Each staff member of our school performs an essential personal role in teaching the children social and wellbeing skills. To achieve this they will:

- Exercise a duty of care towards all students, consistent with school policies and Victorian Education Department guidelines
- Recognise values and protect the uniqueness, potential and dignity of each student
- Be sensitive to each student's religious, social and cultural background and affirms the richness of this diversity
- Foster the development of each student's self-concept and their ability to interact harmoniously and productively with others
- Support students in developing increased responsibility for personal decision-making and action
- Be committed to justice and equity for all students, in all interactions, educational opportunities and outcomes
- Use agreed instructional and behavioural practices and interventions
- Support and actively promote a safe and positive school environment
- Foster relationships with students which are based on trust, honesty and integrity
- Teach students about what they can do if they feel unsafe
- Listen to and act on any concerns students, or their parents or carers, raise with them
- Observe child safe principles and expectations for appropriate behaviour towards and in the company of children

#### **RECRUITMENT**

Our school will apply thorough and rigorous standards in the recruitment and screening of staff and volunteers. We interview and conduct referee checks on all staff and volunteers and require Working With Children Checks (WWCC) for staff and volunteers who will be in contact with students.

#### **REPORTING**

Our school will record any child safety complaints, disclosures or breaches of appropriate conduct and store the records in accordance with security and privacy requirements. Our complaints and disclosure processes are outlined in our Mandatory Reporting Policy.

#### **RISK MANAGEMENT**

Our school is committed to ensuring all children within the community are safe and have taken steps to ensure that all foreseeable risks are assessed and wherever possible, mitigated.

A risk management plan has been developed and details all foreseeable risks and minimisation strategies to the children within our community.

**Evaluation:** This policy will be reviewed as part of the school's three-year review cycle.

**Approved by School Council – May 2019**

**To be reviewed – 2022**

**Signed:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Date:** \_\_\_\_\_