

Child Safe Policy

Goulburn Valley Grammar School has developed the following Child Safe Policy. This Policy is an overarching document that provides key elements of our approach to protecting children from abuse.

The Policy ultimately -making processes and culture with respect to child safety.

It is designed to be published on our public website and Agora. As well as communicated through induction and welcome packs for Board of Directors, Staff and Volunteers.

Child Safe Values and Principles

the following overarching principles that guide the development and regular review of our work systems, practices, policies and procedures to protect children from abuse.

1. All children have the right to be safe.
2. The welfare and best interests of the child are paramount.
3. The views of the child and a privacy must be respected.
4. Clear expectations for appropriate behaviour with children are established in our Child Safe Code of Conduct and Staff and Student Professional Boundaries policy.
5. The safety of children is dependent upon the existence of a child safe culture.
6. Child safety awareness is promoted and openly discussed within our school community.
7. Procedures are in place to screen all staff, Direct Contact Volunteers**, Third Party Contractors and External Education Providers who have direct contact with children.
8. Child safety and protection is everyone's responsibility.
9. Child protection training is mandatory for all Board of Directors, staff and Direct Contact Volunteers.
10. Procedures for responding to alleged or suspected incidents of child abuse are simple and accessible for all members of the school community.
11. Children from culturally or linguistically diverse backgrounds have the right to special care and support including those who identify as Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander.
12. Children who have any kind of disability have the right to special care and support.

**Direct Contact Volunteers are those volunteers who are involved in providing support, guidance and supervision directly to students and could potentially have direct contact with students during the normal course of providing the volunteer service.

The Worker Screening Act 2020 (Vic) defines "direct contact" as any contact between a person and a child (aged under 18) that involves:

In addition, the Board of Directors will also;

promote a child safe culture with the school community

ensure that child safety is a regular agenda item at Board meetings

undertake annual training on child safety

approve updates to and act in accordance with, the

Child Safety Code of Conduct,

to the extent that it applies to Board of Directors

The Principal

The Principal is responsible, and will be accountable for, taking all practical measures to ensure that this Child Safe Policy and the Child Protection Program are implemented effectively and

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This also includes music teachers and other extra-curricular teachers and instructors who are engaged by students and their families directly, rather than the School, but have an agreement with the School to use the