



CHILD SAFETY

Student developed Child Safety Policy

RATIONALE:

Damascus College supports the CECV commitment to providing a safe and nurturing culture for all children and young people in Victorian Catholic schools through:

1. Upholding the primacy of the safety and wellbeing of children and young people.
2. Empowering families, children, young people and staff to have a voice and raise concerns.
3. Implementing rigorous risk-management and employment practices.

CHILD SAFE STANDARDS:

- 1. Strategies to embed an organisational culture of child safety, including through effective leadership arrangements.**

We as students feel safe knowing we are able to speak to the Child Safety Officer or any staff member at school if we have concerns. If we feel unsafe, we are comfortable knowing that our concerns will be acted upon.

- 2. A child safety policy or a statement of commitment to child safety in the school**

Our school allows for students and staff to have a voice and raise any concerns. This shows the care for child safety and a safe environment.

3. A child safety code of conduct

At Damascus College, all staff and students have the right to a safe and enriched environment. This includes safety from abuse such as physical, sexual, physiological and emotional. All staff are required to uphold the values of the school and display acceptable behaviours, as shown in the child safety code of conduct.

4. School staff selection, supervision and management practices for a child safe environment.

We as students feel safe knowing that all staff and visitors to the College who have any interaction with students, must have a valid working with children card or VIT registration. Prior to employment, thorough research and background checks are completed to determine the individuals suitability to the College.

5. Procedures for responding to and reporting allegations of suspected child abuse

The Principal, members of the Leadership team, including the Child Safety officer, follow the PROTECT document as a guide for responding to and reporting allegations of suspected child abuse.

6. Strategies to identify and reduce or remove risks of child abuse (Risk Management)

We as students feel safe knowing that the safety and wellbeing of families, staff and students, young and old, will be upheld by the school through rigorous risk management and employment practices.

7. Strategies to promote child empowerment and participation

We as students feel safe knowing that there are strategies in place to promote healthy and respectful relationships, resilience, child abuse awareness and prevention, and inclusion and development of the child safe student policy.



Be. My. Best.

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