



Child Safety Code of Conduct

Vision

To deliver excellence in education where all students develop to their full potential.

Values

- **Excellence in education** – high quality teaching tailored to the individual
- **Learning for life** – striving for excellence in learning, utilising skills for life
- **Respect** – having regard for self, others and environment
- **Inclusion** – accept diversity, sense of belonging
- **Responsibility** – being responsible for your actions and words

This Child Safety Code of conduct outlines appropriate standards of behaviour for all adults towards students. The Code serves to protect students, reduce any opportunities for abuse or harm to occur, and promote child safety in the school environment. It provides guidance on how to best support students and how to avoid situations which may potentially put adults at risk of breaching the Code and how to report a breach. The Code will be reviewed following significant incidents or every two years.

All staff, volunteers and School Council members, third party contractors, external providers of Echuca Specialist School community are responsible for supporting the safety, participation, wellbeing and empowerment of children. This Code covers the school setting, camps, excursions and all other school approved outings. specialist services (counsellors, physiotherapists etc) and online environments.

Echuca Specialist School requires all adults to observe child safe principles and expectations for appropriate behaviour towards and in the company of students as noted below:

- behaving as a positive role model to students
- promoting the safety, welfare and wellbeing of all students
- providing appropriate supervision for students

- using positive and affirming language toward students
- encouraging student voice and listening with respect.
- helping provide an open, safe supportive environment for all students to interact, and socialise
- intervening when students are engaging in inappropriate bullying behaviour towards others or acting in a humiliating or vilifying manner.
- ensuring the adult/student relationship remains professional at all times
- listening and responding to the views and concerns of students, 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 safety, participation and empowerment of students with a disability
- promoting the cultural safety, participation and empowerment of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children
- promoting the cultural safety, participation and empowerment of students with culturally and/or linguistically diverse backgrounds
- upholding a commitment to student safety by adhering to Echuca Specialist School Child Safe Policy at all times and reporting any breaches of the Child Safety Code of Conduct.
- understanding and complying with all reporting obligations as they relate to mandatory reporting and reporting under the Crimes Act 1958
- reporting to the Victorian Institute of Teaching any charges, committals for trial or convictions in relation to a sexual offence by a registered teacher, or certain allegations or concerns about a registered teacher.
- reporting any student safety concerns or allegations of child abuse to the Principal or Assistant Principal, who will ensure any allegation is reported to the police or child protection.
- if an allegation of child abuse is made, ensure as quickly as possible that the student(s) are safe

All adults must not engage in any form of inappropriate behaviour towards students or expose students to such behaviour including but not limited to:

- act in any way that condones, ignores or disregards any suspected or disclosed child abuse or fails to respond to any suspected or disclosed child abuse.
- develop 'special' relationships with students that could be perceived as favouritism (for example, the offering of gifts or special treatment for specific children)
- exhibit behaviours with children which may be construed as unnecessarily physical.
- engage in any form of physical violence towards a student, including inappropriately rough physical play.
- use physical means to discipline or control a student
- engage in any form of behaviour that has the potential to cause a student serious emotional or psychological harm.
- be alone or engage in undisclosed private meetings with a student as far as practicable, unless specifically approved as part of a school program/curriculum pending a risk assessment with measures put in place for child safety.
- provide personal care that a student can perform for themselves, such as, showering, toileting or changing clothes
- engage in informal discussions of a mature or adult nature in the presence of students (for example, personal social activities)

- behave or communicate in a prejudicial or suppressive manner
- use inappropriate language in the presence of students express personal views on cultures, race or sexuality in the presence of students or discriminate against any student based on culture, age, gender, vulnerability, sexuality, race ethnicity or disability
- have contact or home visits with a student or their family outside of Echuca Specialist School hours without the Principal or Assistant Principal's knowledge and/or consent (for example, other work). Accidental contact, such as seeing people in the street, is appropriate)
- engage in any personal communications with a student through any medium including any online contact or interactions with a student
- publish (including online) or take any photograph, video or recording of a student, unless specifically part of a school program/curriculum without the consent of the parent or guardians
- post online any information about a student that may identify them, such as their full name , age , email address, telephone number , residence, school or details of a club or groups they may attend.
- work with students whilst under the influence of alcohol , illegal drugs or medication that may impair judgement.
- consume alcohol or drugs at school or at school events in the presence of students

If you believe a child is at immediate risk of abuse phone 000.

By signing the above code of conduct you agree to observe the behaviours and standards for child safety at Echuca Specialist School and to immediately report any breach of this code to the Principal or Assistant Principal.

I agree to adhere to this Code of Conduct:

Name:

Signature:

Date:

Witness:

Date:

Related Programs, Policies and Procedures.

Child Safe Policy

School Privacy

Volunteer Policy

Staff Dress Code

OH&S Policy

Student Wellbeing and Engagement Policy

KI SWPBS Framework

Student Management Policy

Risk management procedures

PART training

DET Seclusion and Restraint Policy

School Bus Policy

Transport Alcohol and Drug Policy

Mandatory Reporting Procedures

Emergency Management Procedures

Recruitment and Selection Procedures

Induction Procedures