



CRANBOURNE  
SECONDARY COLLEGE

## CHILD SAFE SCHOOL STATEMENT

From August 2016 Ministerial Order No. 870 came into force. All schools are included in this order which establishes **zero tolerance to child abuse**.

The school's commitment to the community is to develop respectful, responsible and safe learners with a vision based on the holistic education of our students. We seek to ensure that all students reach their academic, social and emotional potential, within the school's Positive Behaviour Support framework. The school has received blue level recognition for its development of this framework.

The school takes its responsibility seriously to provide protection and support from bullying, child abuse and sexual assault. It also responds appropriately to abuse, neglect or sexual assault. All staff abide by mandatory reporting requirements and police protocols. The school provides access to counselling support, pro-active school programs and support units and agencies in the community as appropriate.

### Principles

- All staff working with students in this school have a moral and legal obligation and a duty of care to protect any child under their care from reasonably foreseeable harm.
- Everyone connected to our school is expected to help children be safe.
- We have zero tolerance for any abuse of children.
- We have policies and processes in place to protect the care, safety and welfare of children. These are being strengthened to ensure a zero tolerance approach to child abuse.
- There are clear boundaries about how adults in our school community may interact with the children here.
- The child safe standards go further than child protection arrangements did in the past.
- The child safe standards apply to school staff (including volunteers and contractors), visitors and students' family members.
- Keeping children safe is everyone's responsibility. All staff at our school have roles and responsibilities for ensuring children's safety.

### What this means for adults associated with the school

- We want to ensure that parents and guardians know that we are keeping your students safe at school, and encourage you to support us.
- Staff members (including volunteers) receive regular training and support to understand and carry out their responsibilities under the standards.
- Unsupervised contractors will be asked about their child safety arrangements as a condition of working with us if they work with children enrolled in the school (or children can reasonably be expected to be present while they are at the school).
- Other people using our school facilities will be asked about their child safety arrangements as a condition of using our facilities if they involve children enrolled at the school (or children can reasonably be expected to be present while their staff or other adults are at the school).

### Responsibilities

Catherine Gilchrist is the school's Child Safe Officer. Any member of the school community who receives information regarding Child Abuse in relation to a student at this school should contact Mrs Gilchrist. All teachers and members of staff support the zero tolerance approach and must follow Mandatory Reporting rules. Our procedures clearly set out how all staff are expected to respond to and report complaints of any form of child abuse.

Principals can declare and ban harmful items from school premises, or in the possession of students at school or when engaged in teacher supervised activities. Principals and authorised teachers have the power to search for and seize these items.

The full set of Policies and Procedures in the Child Safe area are displayed on our website.

WHILE WE LIVE WE GROW