



Mount Erin College Child Empowerment Policy

Child Safe Standards

Mount Erin College is a Child Safe School. Our College is committed to safety and wellbeing of all children and young people. We value all students as individuals and their diversity. This will be the primary focus of our care and decision making.

Mount Erin College is committed to providing a Child Safe environment where children and young people are valued and feel safe, and their voices are heard about decisions that affect their lives.

Our College takes a preventative, proactive and participatory approach to Child Safety to ensure that the safety of children is promoted, child abuse is prevented and allegations of child abuse are properly responded to. Mount Erin College has zero tolerance for child abuse.

Rationale

Children have the right to give their views and opinions about decisions that affect them and to be listened to. **Empowerment** is about helping children to have their say. Children are more likely to speak up about their concerns, about feeling unsafe, or make a complaint if they feel their views are valued and welcomed.

Implementation

Mount Erin College will develop strategies to deliver appropriate education about:

- Standards of behaviour for students attending the school
- Healthy and respectful relationships including sexuality
- Resilience
- Child abuse awareness and prevention
- Self Esteem and Social Responsibility

Mount Erin College will **promote the Child Safe Standards** in ways that are readily accessible, easy to understand, and user friendly to children and our school community.

Mount Erin College delivers appropriate education about **Standards of Behaviour** by:

- ensuring clear expectations for appropriate and inappropriate behavior are monitored using the school's in class and the yard via Compass
- enacting the College's Respectful Relationships Policy
- having an up to date Diversity and Inclusion Policy.
- involving students in decision making through MESEM and other Student Leadership Programs
- the College's IAspire Program

Mount Erin College delivers appropriate education about **Respectful Relationships** by:

- the College's IAspire Program
- implementing a comprehensive Health and Physical Education program.
- Teaching and following the schools agreed values
- Implementing our Respectful Relationships Policy and embedding it as part of our College Culture

Mount Erin College delivers appropriate education about **Resilience** by

- promoting, modeling, teaching, acknowledging and celebrating resilience through the teaching of attitudes, skills and knowledge in all curriculum areas and embedding the schools values.

Mount Erin College delivers appropriate education about **Child Abuse Awareness and Prevention** by

- Implementing a Health and Sexuality Education Program to students in Years 7 to 9
- Providing relevant information to parents and the community, which is published in the College Newsletter
- Publishing relevant information on the College website

Evaluation and Review

This Child Empowerment Policy was endorsed/approved by the Mount Erin College Board in May 2018 and is due for review no later than December 2020.