



Mount Erin College Child Safe Organisational Structure

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.

Managing School Needs

Mount Erin College will address priorities in Child Safety by developing an Action Plan, including allocating responsibilities to school leaders and / or Committees for completing the actions.

Action

Mount Erin College will determine timeframes for meeting priorities identified. This will include allowing time for new policies or procedures to be considered and approved by the College Board.

Induction

The Staff Induction Handbook and Induction Process will ensure that all new staff and volunteers receive key information relating to Mount Erin College's Child Safe Standards.

Management

Mount Erin College will communicate our College statement Vision to our school community to acknowledge the importance of Child Safety and protecting children from abuse.

The Principal is ultimately responsible for overseeing the development of all relevant Child Safe Policies and the implementation of College strategies and procedures related to the Child Safe Standards.

The Principal is supported in this work by the Assistant Principals and members of the Leadership Team.

The College's Wellbeing Team comprising the Assistant Principals, Junior and Senior Sub School Leaders and Year Level Leaders also have a direct responsibility for ensuring that the College's Child Safe Policies and Procedures are effectively implemented and that appropriate Professional Learning in relation to Child Safe Standards is provided to all staff.

The College's Student Services Wellbeing Team has a key role in monitoring Child Safety across the College and for intervening and supporting students at Risk and making Reports to the appropriate Agency.

Mount Erin College will provide Professional Development for ***all*** school staff members to help them understand that they have a moral and legal obligation and a Duty of Care to protect any child under their care from foreseeable harm and that they must respond to any reasonable suspicion that a child has been, or is at risk of being abused by following the Four Critical Actions for Schools: Responding to Incidents, Disclosures or Suspicions of Child Abuse. This Professional Development will also cover recent changes to Victorian Legislation that create additional legal obligations in relation to reporting suspected sexual child abuse including that the failure to meet these obligations can constitute a criminal offence.

Mount Erin College will conduct briefing sessions for school staff members to ensure a high degree of awareness of the Standards and College strategies.

Child Safety will be a standing item within Leadership and Staff Meetings.

Child Safety will annually be communicated in a formal capacity to members of the school community (teachers, parents, students etc.) via the newsletter, as an agenda item at the College Board and at the beginning of the year in Staff Meeting.

Evaluation and Review

Mount Erin College will annually review the school's Child Safe Practices across each of the Standards and identify priorities.