



Mount Erin College

Child Safe Reporting Process

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.

Appendix 2 A useful step by step Guide to making a Report to Child Protection or Child First

<i>Type of Reporting</i>	<i>By Whom</i>	<i>To Whom</i>
<p>Mandatory Reporting - DHHS Child Protection</p> <p>Mandatory Reporters must make a report as soon as practicable if, in the course of practising their profession or carrying out their duties, they form a belief on reasonable grounds that a child or young person is in need of protection, as a result of physical injury or sexual abuse, and the child's parents are unable or unwilling to protect the child.</p>	<p>Mandatory Reporters</p> <p>Teachers registered to teach or who have permission to teach pursuant to the <i>Education and Training Reform Act 2006 (Vic)</i></p> <p>Principals of government and non-government schools</p> <p>Registered medical practitioners</p> <p>Nurses</p> <p>All members of the police force</p>	<p>DHHS Child Protection</p>

Child in need of protection

Any person may make a report if they believe on reasonable grounds that a child is in need of protection for any of the following reasons:

- The child has been abandoned and there is no other suitable person who is willing and able to care for the child.
- The child's parents are dead or incapacitated and there is no other suitable person who is willing and able to care for the child.
- The child has suffered or is likely to suffer significant harm as a result of physical injury and the parents are unable or unwilling to protect the child.
- The child has suffered or is likely to suffer significant harm as a result of sexual abuse and their parents are unable or unwilling to protect the child.
- The child has suffered or is likely to suffer emotional or psychological harm and the parents are unable or unwilling to protect the child.
- The child's physical development or health has been, or is likely to be significantly harmed and the parents are unable or unwilling to provide basic care, or effective medical or other remedial care.

Any person

DHHS Child Protection
Victoria Police

Child displaying sexually abusive behaviours and in need of therapeutic treatment

Any person may make a report if they believe on reasonable grounds that a child who is 10 years of age or over, but under 15 years of age, is in need of therapeutic treatment because he or she has exhibited sexually abusive behaviours.

Any person

DHHS Child Protection

Significant concerns about wellbeing of a child

Any person

DHHS Child Protection

Any person may make a report if they have significant concerns for the wellbeing of a child.

Child FIRST

Reasonable belief that a sexual offence has been committed by an adult against a child under 16.

Any adult who forms a reasonable belief that a sexual offence has been committed in Victoria by an adult against a child under 16 must report that information to police. It is a criminal offence not to make a report, except in the following circumstances:

- The victim is 16 years of age or older and does not have an intellectual disability that limits his/her capacity to make an informed decision; and he/she does not want the information reported to the police
- The victim has disclosed the information in confidence in the course of a therapeutic relationship with you as a registered medical practitioner or counsellor.
- The victim turned 16 years of age before 27 October 2014.

Reasonable excuses for failing to comply with the requirement include:

- a reasonable belief that the information has already been reported to police or DHHS Child Protection disclosing all of the information
- a reasonable fear that the disclosure will place someone other than the alleged perpetrator at risk of harm

Any person aged 18 or over

Victoria Police