

Student Version- Child Safety Policy

Created by the Student Action Team Leaders, School Captains and Wellbeing Leader, Ms Nightingale



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Everyone has the right to be safe and protected from unsafe behaviour.



No one should behave in a way that makes you feel unsafe or afraid, including anyone in your class, family, school or anywhere else in your community.



Introduction

Our school will do anything to keep children safe. The school helps and protects all students; old and young, aboriginal, students with different beliefs and different backgrounds. The school has many ways to keep us safe from harm.

Purpose

The teachers are committed to keeping children safe. This means that the kids at St Mark's feel safe and aren't worried or scared that something bad will happen to them in the community, home or school. The teachers and the staff at St Mark's school know what to do if a student says that they feel unsafe.





Commitment to Child Safety

All students and young people attending St Mark's School have the right to feel safe.

The school tolerates no bullying, racism or any kind of unsafe behaviour. Everyone is treated fairly and equally.

Risk Management



St Mark's School knows that it is important to keep our school safe. The school looks for problems or things that might be unsafe and then if there are any problems in the school they are fixed straight away.

The students should always tell someone if they see a risk or something unsafe.

Code of Conduct



St Mark's School makes sure there is a Child Safe Code of Conduct for all Teachers, Learning Support Officers, Fr Colin, Emergency Teachers, Parent helpers, other volunteers and workers. This document clearly outlines the behaviour that they need to show.

The Code of Conduct is available on the school website and in the office.



Hiring Staff and Staff training

Before employing staff and helpers, St Mark's check the background of the person to see if they are suitable to work with children.

Some things the school does to check they are the right people for St Mark's are:

- Check if there is a police criminal record.
- They know how to include people with disabilities.
- Decide if they are nice to kids and can listen to children.
- Make sure they follow St Mark's Expectations.
- Check they have a Working With Children Check and are registered to be a teacher.
- See what they did for their last job.
- They show the St Mark's Dispositions and the Mercy Values.
- Mr Wilson talks to the people that worked with them before to see if they

are safe people. Once they have settled into St Mark's School they get more information and training about child safety.

Inclusion and empowerment for all Students and Young People

All staff at our school help the kids understand that they have a right to feel safe and secure.



The Student Leaders play an important role in making sure that we know that we all have rights including the right to be safe. The school promotes programs and national days to remind us of our right to be safe such as being a beyou school, National Day against Bullying, National Child Protection Week and Day for Daniel.

Social and Emotional Learning in the classroom help us to understand our rights. There are displays and posters in the school informing us about what we can do if we feel unsafe and how Student's at St Mark's can speak up.

Valuing Differences

St Mark's School Values differences and does not allow any kind of teasing because people are different.

The school helps and looks after **ALL** students;

- students with different backgrounds
- students that are different shapes and sizes
- students with different beliefs
- students that like different things
- old and young
- students that have different abilities



Raising concerns

At St Mark's our students have ways to raise their worries and concerns:

- Speaking to a teacher. Teachers make you feel welcome by being caring. They build a safe environment and make you feel you can trust them.
- Asking a trusted adult. The trusted adult can contact the school and gain support.
- The school and home can work together to provide support.
- Students are able to send an email or letter to staff.
- St Mark's has a buddy program which allows younger kids to be supported by older students.



Online Safety

- Digital technology class provides students with the knowledge on how to stay safe online.
- Students are reminded how to be safe every time they use technology.
- Computers are used in shared spaces and you need to ask for permission before use.
- Students sign a technology code of conduct.
- St Mark's run information nights to parents to show them ways to keep their child safe online.

