



Mater Dei Catholic Primary School

CHILD PROTECTION POLICY

This policy is to be read in conjunction with the [Diocese of Wagga 'Safe Schools: Child Protection Policy.'](#)

Rationale:

All children have a right to feel and be safe. Teachers with reasonable grounds for suspecting that a student has, or will be, exposed to injury through maltreatment have moral and legal responsibilities to report the situation to an officer of the appropriate authority.

Aims:

To ensure that children's rights to be safe are maintained and that each child is protected against injury resulting from physical, psychological or sexual abuse.

Implementation:

- ❑ Mater Dei adopts and implements the CSO's [Child Protection Code of Professional Standards.](#)
- ❑ Mater Dei, through the CSO, screens all employees.
- ❑ Staff will discuss and participate in Child Protection Legislation training as required.
- ❑ Mater Dei provides new volunteers (who have no relationship with a student at the school) with the information necessary to go online to complete a Working with Children Check. Once completed the check is valid for 5 years and volunteers who do not have a valid clearance are not permitted to work in the school. Further information can be obtained from <http://www.kids.nsw.gov.au/Working-with-children/New-Working-With-Children-Check/Resources>
- ❑ Principals or teachers have a duty to report any suspicion if there are reasonable grounds or injury to students through maltreatment.
- ❑ It is mandatory for teachers who suspect child abuse to report concerns to the Principal.
- ❑ Teachers who have reasonable grounds for suspecting a child has suffered maltreatment, or that there is substantial risk that the child will suffer maltreatment, can lawfully make such a report without fear of legal repercussion.
- ❑ The Principal and/or staff member will contact NSW Family and Community Services to report any abuse – online www.keepthemsafe.nsw.gov.au
- ❑ All details will be fully documented and retained.
- ❑ Confidentiality will be maintained at all times.
- ❑ Subsequent concerns about the same child will also be brought to the attention of the Principal.

Evaluation:

This policy was last reviewed May 28th, 2014.