Child Protection Student Fact Sheet

Introduction

Creek Street Christian College (hereafter 'the College") is committed to providing a caring, safe, and accepting environment for students. All children have a right to feel safe. The College is committed to child safety, and we have a zero tolerance to child abuse. The College are guided by the Child Safe Standards effective from 1 July 2022: About Child Safe Standards | Victorian Government (www.vic.gov.au)

All adults have a responsibility to care for children and to protect them from any kind of abuse or neglect. The College is responsible to provide a safe environment for children and to provide an education which supports their social, emotional, spiritual, and physical well-being.

In the 21st Century, diversity has become an exceedingly important consideration for schools. A focus on diversity can increase inclusion and create a fairer and more inclusive community.

The College has a diverse community and is therefore sensitive to the diversity and characteristics of the College community, including, but not limited to gender, racial, ethnic, age, experience, socioeconomic, ability, sexual orientation, cultural, religious, skill, political and educational.

We are entrusted by parents to care for their children as individuals created and valued by God.

Types of Child abuse

Child abuse has a significant effect on a child's physical or emotional health, development, and well-being. The younger a child is the more vulnerable they are and the more serious the consequences are likely to be.

Types of child abuse include physical, emotional, neglect, medical neglect, sexual abuse, family violence and risk-taking behaviour.

Who can I talk to?

If you are worried about child abuse, for you or someone you know, there are people you can talk to.

It is a good idea to talk to an adult you trust about any concerns you have. That person may be a parent or relative, a teacher, our chaplain, or someone who works at the College. You may want to talk to more than one person about your concerns.

If you see harm occurring:
You can help the student who has been harmed, for example:

- Telling other students to move away or stop
- Get a teacher or school employee involved as soon as possible
- Tell the Principal/ Assistant Principal straight away about what you saw
- Write down what you saw and give the information to the Principal/Assistant Principal.

What other resources are available?
There are services that you can contact to access more information, and in some case, to speak to somebody about your concerns.

National Child Abuse Helpline (Child Wise)
Phone: 1800 991 099
This is a toll-free number with access to expert advice from trained counsellors and an opportunity to speak up about child abuse.

Kids Helpline
Phone: 1800 551 800
For any time and for any reason– free, private and confidential phone
and online counselling 24 hrs a day 7 days a week.

Headspace (National Youth Mental Health Foundation)
Phone: 1800 650 890
Headspace can help if you are aged 12 or over and you are going through a touch time. You can talk to someone at Headspace on the phone, online or in person. They are online at:
http://headspace.org.au

Who do you speak to at the College?

- Your classroom or homeroom (Christian Living teacher)
- Principal/Assistant Principal
- Chaplain

Our Anti-bullying procedure 'Bye, Bye, Bullying' is used for issues in the classroom or yard:
Slogan: "Spot It Out, Speak It Out, Stamp It out!"

1. Identify the problem
2. Ask God for help
3. Talk to a trusted person
4. Take action
5. Move on

Call the police on 000 if you have immediate concerns for a child's safety.

All children have a right to feel safe and to be safe. Our College has a zero tolerance to child abuse