



CHILD PROTECTION STUDENT FACT SHEET

Introduction

Kerang Christian College is committed to providing a caring, safe and accepting environment for students. All children have a right to feel safe and to be safe. Kerang Christian College is committed to child safety. We have zero tolerance of child abuse.

Rationale

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 fosters their health, developmental needs, spirituality, self-respect and dignity. We are entrusted by parents with the care of their children, who are precious in the sight of God.

Types of Child Abuse

Child abuse can have a significant effect on a child's physical or emotional health, development and wellbeing. 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
- 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's a good idea to talk to an adult you trust about any concerns you have. That person might be a parent or relative, a teacher, or someone who works at school. You may want to talk to more than one person about your concerns.

IF YOU SEE HARM OCCURRING, YOU CAN DO THE FOLLOWING:

Help the student who has been harmed, for example:

- By telling other students to move away
- Get a teacher or school employee involved as soon as possible
- Tell the Principal / Head of School / Child Safety Champion straight away about what you saw
- Write down what you saw and give the information to the Principal.

WHAT OTHER RESOURCES ARE AVAILABLE?

There are services that you can contact to access more information, and in some cases, to speak to somebody about your concerns.

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 tough time. You can talk to someone at Headspace on the phone, online or in person. They are online at: <http://headspace.org.au>.

WHO IS THE CHILD SAFETY CHAMPION AT OUR SCHOOL?

Miss Aleisha Pryor

WHO ELSE CAN I TALK TO AT OUR SCHOOL?

Mr Lance Davidson, Principal

Mrs Michelle Café, Head of Secondary School

Mrs Esther Hick, College Chaplain

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.

