



# 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 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.

### 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 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 ARE THE CHILD SAFETY OFFICERS AT OUR SCHOOL?

Mr Michael Bond, Principal / Head of Primary School

Mrs Michelle Bond, Head of Secondary School

Mrs Michelle Café, Head of Senior School

**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.**

