



St Andrew's Parish

CORPUS CHRISTI PRIMARY SCHOOL

29 RUSSELL STREET, WERRIBEE VIC. 3030

Corpus Christi Volunteers Code of Conduct

Safeguarding Children and Young People

Our Vision and Mission Statement

We, at Corpus Christi, continue the Spirit-filled legacy of Mary MacKillop within our Catholic Learning Community. We recognise that we are an integral part of the St. Andrew's Parish of Werribee.

Inspired by the courage and tenacity of Mary MacKillop, we recognise that each of us is called to be a living part of the Body of Christ.

Therefore we:

- Live out in word and deed the *Gospel values* of justice, integrity, respect and dignity
- *Celebrate* our faith, scripture and tradition
- Provide contemporary learning for *all* members of our community
- Create an environment that *enables* each member of the community to find *greater meaning* in his/her life
- Foster a culture that *values* the *Pursuit of Excellence*.

Purpose

This Code of Conduct has a specific focus on safeguarding children and young people at **Corpus Christi Primary School** against sexual, physical, psychological and emotional abuse or neglect. It is intended to complement other professional and/or occupational codes.

All staff, volunteers, contractors, clergy, School Board and other parent body members at **Corpus Christi Primary School** are expected to actively contribute to a school culture that respects the dignity of its members and affirms the Gospel values of love, care for others, compassion and justice. They are required to observe child safe principles and expectations for appropriate behaviour towards and in the company of children, as noted below.

Acceptable behaviours

All staff, volunteers, contractors, clergy, School Board and other parent body members are responsible for supporting the safety of children by:

- adhering to the school's child safe policy and upholding the school's statement of commitment to child safety at all times
- taking all reasonable steps to protect children from abuse
- treating everyone in the school community with respect (modelling positive and respectful relationships and acting in a manner that sustains a safe, educational and pastoral environment)
- listening and responding to the views and concerns of children, particularly if they are telling you that they or another child has been abused or that they are worried about their safety/the safety of another child
- promoting the cultural safety, participation and empowerment of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children (for example, by never questioning an Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander child's self-identification)
- promoting the cultural safety, participation and empowerment of children with culturally and/or linguistically diverse backgrounds (for example, by having a zero tolerance of discrimination)
- promoting the safety, participation and empowerment of children with a disability (for example, during personal care activities)
- ensuring as far as practicable that adults are not alone with a child
- reporting any allegations of child abuse to the school's leadership (or child safety officer if the school has appointed someone to this role)
- understanding and complying with all reporting obligations as they relate to mandatory reporting and reporting under the *Crimes Act 1958*
- reporting any child safety concerns to the school's leadership (or child safety officer if the school has appointed someone to this role)
- if an allegation of child abuse is made, ensuring as quickly as possible that the child(ren) are safe

Unacceptable behaviours

All staff, volunteers, contractors, clergy, School Board and other parent body members must not:

- ignore or disregard any suspected or disclosed child abuse
- develop any 'special' relationships with children that could be seen as favouritism (for example, the offering of gifts or special treatment for specific children) inside or outside of school.
- exhibit behaviours with children which may be construed as unnecessarily physical (for example inappropriate sitting on laps)
- put children at risk of abuse (for example, by locking doors, leaving children unsupervised)
- initiate unnecessary physical contact which children or do things of a personal nature that a child can do for themselves, such as toileting or changing clothes

- engage in open discussions of a mature or adult nature in the presence of children (for example, personal social activities)
- use inappropriate language in the presence of children
- express personal views on cultures, race or sexuality in the presence of children
- discriminate against any child, including because of age, gender, race, culture, vulnerability, sexuality, ethnicity or disability
- have any unauthorised online contact with a child (including by social media, email, instant messaging etc) or their family (unless necessary eg by providing families with e-newsletters or assisting students with their school work)
- use any personal communication channels or exchange personal contact details such as phone number, social networking sites or email addresses with students.
- photograph or video a child without the consent of the parent or guardians
- work with children whilst under the influence of alcohol or illegal drugs
- consume alcohol without the consent of the Principal or School Leadership Team at school or at school events in the presence of children.

Please sign and return the back page of the Code of Conduct to the School Office.

Developed by: Child Safe Team in consultation with Corpus Christ Staff

Date: Updated 3rd March 2017



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Safeguarding Children and Young People**

Agreement to the Corpus Christi Code of Conduct
(please return this page to the School Office)

I, _____ (please print full name)

- Confirm that I have read and understand the Corpus Christi Code of Conduct
- I have been provided with a copy of the Corpus Christ Code of Conduct

Signature: _____ **Date:** _____

Name of Eldest Child at Corpus Christi: _____ **Grade:** _____

Relationship to School (eg: Parent, Parishioner, Grandparent) _____

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