

Safeguarding Children Code of Conduct (Parent Volunteers)

Purpose

This Code of Conduct for Volunteers has a specific focus on confidentiality as well as safeguarding children and young people at St Mary's Hampton against sexual, physical, psychological and emotional abuse or neglect. It has been developed in accordance with [Victorian Government's Ministerial Order No 870 to support](#) the school's Professional Child Safety Code of conduct and defines expectations of parents and those members of the community who may, at times, act as volunteers.

All volunteers at St Mary's Hampton 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.

Volunteers at St. Mary's encounter a range of students with a variety of individual needs and behaviours. It is very important that all volunteers maintain strict confidentiality and respect the dignity and privacy of all students and staff.

Any such concerns about students need to be referred to the classroom teacher and not shared with any other person(s). If confidentiality issues are compromised, the support provided by the parent volunteer will need to be reviewed. If others seek information from you, please refer them to the classroom teacher.

Acceptable behaviours

- Adhering to the school's child safe policy and upholding the school's statement of commitment to child safety at all times
- Treating everyone in the school community with respect
- Promoting safety, participation and empowerment of children by having a zero tolerance of discrimination (for example, children with a disability, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children and children from culturally and/or linguistically diverse backgrounds)
- Reporting any concerns to the classroom teacher/Deputy Principal
- Respecting the privacy of all students and their families

Unacceptable behaviours

- Discriminate against any child
- Photograph or video a child without parental consent
- Discuss student learning or behaviour of students as observed while volunteering with people other than the classroom teacher
- Initiate any unnecessary physical contact with children
- Engage in open adult discussions and/or express personal views on cultures, race or sexuality in the presence of children including using inappropriate language

- Exhibit behaviours with students which may be construed as unnecessarily physical (such as inappropriate sitting on laps)
- Do things of a personal nature that a student can do for themselves (such as toileting or changing clothes)
- Use inappropriate language in the presence of students and any other member of the school community
- Attend the school site under the influence or effects of illegal drugs and/or alcohol
- Disclose to any member of the community, including their own children, confidential information obtained as a result of participating in Child Connected Works. (ie: discussing a student's academic strengths or weaknesses)

Code of Conduct (Parent Volunteers)

I have read and understood the necessity for confidentiality and child safety, and endeavour to abide by these expectations so that all members of the school community will benefit while volunteering my help at St Mary's. I will respect the confidentiality of all staff and students at all times and will not discuss or divulge any information or activity which occurs at school. I will respect the rights, privacy and dignity of all members of the school community.

I, _____, confirm I have been provided with a copy of the above Code of Conduct.

Signed: _____ Date: _____

Name: _____

Signed _____

Date: _____