



Child Safe Program (New Policy Format)

Student Child Safety Code of Conduct Policy and Procedures

If you are a non-English speaker who needs help to understand this Policy, please contact the Principal, Maureen Theobald - 0402 685 409.

Introduction

Heritage College is a Christian school with commitment to the values embodied by our Heavenly Father and his son, Jesis Christ. Children are an "heritage from the LORD" and as such are precious. No child should be subject to abuse or discrimination.

The Lord Jesus Christ is the model for behaviour in the college. His care for children is documented in his ministry where he condemns those who cause harm to children. Christ was caring of those who are vulnerable. The care and protection of our children is fundamental as we seek to faithfully implement the values and teaching of our Lord.

Heritage College is committed to safeguarding our children to enjoy the joys of childhood; and supporting our youth as they grow to adulthood to expect and show respect, care, acceptance, responsibility and forgiveness.

Statement of Commitment to Child Safety and Wellbeing

All children and young people who come to Heritage College Knox have a right to feel and be safe. We are committed to providing a child safe and child friendly environment, where children and young people are safe and feel safe, and can actively participate in decisions that affect their lives.

We have zero tolerance for abuse and other harm and are committed to acting in students' best interests and keeping them safe from harm.

The College regards its child safe expectations responsibilities with the utmost importance and as such, is committed to providing the necessary resources to maintain a child safe culture and ensure compliance with all relevant child safe organisation and child protection laws and regulations.

Each member of the College community has a responsibility to understand the important and specific role that they play individually and collectively to ensure that the wellbeing and safety of all students is at the forefront of all that they do and every decision that they make.

Purpose

At Heritage College Knox we recognise that effective learning can only occur in a secure environment where the dignity, rights and responsibilities of others are known and respected and where standards and rules are fairly and consistently applied.

The Student Child Safety Code of Conduct has been developed to clearly set out standards of behaviour related to child safety and wellbeing that students are expected to abide by.

Scope

If you are enrolled as a student at the College, you must follow the Student Child Safety Code of Conduct in this Policy.

It does not matter:

- how old you are
- whether you attend the College full-time, part-time or otherwise.

You must follow it whenever you are:

- in a College environment (College environments include physical, virtual and online environments, as well as any place where College-related activities are occurring); or
- wearing your College uniform or can otherwise be identified as a College student.

Roles and Responsibilities

Roles and responsibilities relevant to the Student Child Safety Code of Conduct are set out in the Child Safety Policy, available on our public website.

In addition:

- the Deputy Principal (Student Welfare) is responsible for developing and consulting with students about the Student Child Safety Code of Conduct
- the College's home group teachers/house leaders are responsible for helping students to understand and comply with the Student Child Safety Code of Conduct.

Policy Statement

Heritage College Knox's Values

You **must** uphold the College's values. They are:

Heritage College Knox is a Christian school offering students opportunities to engage in quality learning experiences and acquire values supportive of their lifelong wellbeing. We believe strong, positive relationships between all members of our school are the foundation to supporting the success of all students.

Christ commanded us to love God and to love our neighbor as we love ourselves. This means treating others with consideration and respect, online and face-to-face, as you would like to be treated.

Students' Rights

You have the right to:

To be treated fairly and with respect from adults and peers.

To be safe from abuse and harm.

To grow up healthy" physically, intellectually, emotionally, and spiritually.

To get an education in an environment that allows them to develop their beliefs and express ideas with freedom.

To have access to information that is relevant to their well-being, and age appropriate to them.

To have a say about decisions that affect them.

To contribute to and be a part of the community.

Students' Responsibilities

You **must**:

- follow other College rules and relevant policies, as well as the directions of teachers

To honour their parents, teachers and other adults who are looking after them.

To treat their peers with respect, and kindness.

To respect and follow the rules of school and the society.

To understand the importance of freely-given consent in relationships with others.

To not invade privacy of another person.

To not say or act in sexually suggestive, or abusive ways.

To express their opinions respectfully and thoughtfully.

To not disrupt or obstruct the rights of peers to learn and be safe.

Procedures

Consulting with Students About the Student Child Safety Code of Conduct

The College uses a variety of strategies to consult with students when developing and reviewing the Student Child Safety Code of Conduct. These may include surveys, discussion groups, consultation with the student representative body or other means.

For more information, refer to **Student Participation and Empowerment (Child Safety) Policy and Procedures** and **Regular Reviews and Continuous Improvement (Child Safety) Policy and Procedures**.

Raising Concerns About Safety

If you are concerned that a child, young person or student aged 18 or over is in immediate danger, call the Police on 000.

Any person, including students, can at any time, contact DFFH Child Protection if they are concerned about the wellbeing of a child aged under 17.

You can do this by:

- during business hours (8:45am-5:00pm, Monday to Friday), contacting the Child Protection intake service for the local government area where the child resides, listed [here](#)
- after hours, telephoning 13 12 78.

If you are concerned about your safety, or the behaviour of others, it's important that you tell a trusted adult. This could be a parent or carer, a trusted teacher or a College Child Safety Officer.

Our Staff are committed to ensuring that all students feel empowered to speak up and be heard. Staff will take your concerns seriously. They will also ensure that you receive ongoing support.

The College provides all students with information about and encourages them to use multiple pathways to raise child safety concerns about or at the College, including concerns about the behaviour of other students.

You can raise concerns informally or formally, anonymously, or through external child advocacy or child safety organisations.

A child-friendly version of the [Complaints Management \(Child Safety\) Policy and Procedures](#), which explains the different pathways, is available CS Child Safety Policy.

Implementation

The Student Child Safety Code of Conduct is:

Insert Where the Student Code of Conduct is Published

The College provides a child-friendly version of the Student Child Safety Code of Conduct, found
Insert a link to or description of where your school's child-friendly version of the Student Child Safe Code of Conduct Policy and Procedures can be located., to all students.

Breach

If you breach the Student Child Safety Code of Conduct, or other College rules or policies, the College will follow the **Heritage College Student Code of Conduct** and may discipline you, but it will also support you to address behaviours that are not in line with the Code and to mitigate any underlying factors.

Definitions

Definitions of particular terms used in the Student Child Safety Code of Conduct Policy and Procedures can be found in **Child Safety Program Definitions**, which is annexed to the Reporting and Responding Obligations (Child Safety) Policy and Procedures.

Source of Obligation

- Victorian Child Safe Standards, Standard 3
- Ministerial Order 1359, Clause 6

Related Policies

- Child Safety Policy
- Child Safety Adult Code of Conduct Policy and Procedures
- Staff and Professional Boundaries Policy
- Reporting and Responding Obligations (Child Safety) Policy and Procedures
- Complaints Management (Child Safety) Policy and Procedures
- Record Keeping (Child Safety) Policy and Procedures
- Student Participation and Empowerment (Child Safety Policy and Procedures
- Family and Community Involvement, Cultural Safety and Equity-Diversity (Child Safety) Policies and Procedures
- Human Resources Management (Child Safety) Policies and Procedures
- Risk Management (Child Safety) Policy and Procedures
- Regular Reviews and Continuous Improvement (Child Safety) Policies and Procedures
- Heritage College Student Code of Conduct
- Student Duty of Care Program

Related Documents

- CS Child Safety Policy
- Insert a link to or description of where your school's child-friendly version of the Student Child Safe Code of Conduct Policy and Procedures can be located.

References

- Commission for Children and Young People, Resources and Support for the Child Safe Standards

Policy Administration

Status	Document Owner	Approver(s)	Approval Date	Version Number	Last Reviewed	Review Frequency	Next Review Date
Current	[Specify Person's Name]	[Specify Approver s]	[Approval Date]	[Version Number]	[Review Date]	[Review Frequency]	[Next Review Date]