

HELENA COLLEGE

Bringing out the best together



**Helena College
Child Safe Policy
(Child Safe Programme)**





Child Safe Policy

This Child Safe Policy implements the **National Principles for Child Safe Organisations**.

This Child Safe Policy has been approved by the College Council and will be reviewed on annual basis..

The Child Safe Policy is published on our College's public website and provided to new Staff, and to Direct Contact Volunteers and Direct Contact Contractors at induction. It is also communicated through other mediums such as newsletters and welcome packs for College Council Members, staff members and Direct Contact Volunteers.

Purpose

Our Child Safe Policy was written to demonstrate the strong commitment of the College to child safety, and to provide an outline of the policies and practices that we have developed to keep our students safe, including from abuse or other harm.

It is an overarching policy that provides the key elements of our approach to the College as a child safe organisation and sets the tone for the College's entire Child Safe Programme.

The Child Safe Policy provides the framework for:

- the implementation of the National Principles for Child Safe Organisations
- the development of work systems, practices, policies and procedures that promote child protection, safety and wellbeing within the College
- the creation of a safe and supportive College environment and a positive and robust child safe culture
- the promotion and open discussion of child safety issues within the College and
- compliance with all laws, regulations and standards relevant to child protection and child safety in WA.

Scope

The College's Child Safe Policy applies to all adults in the College community, including Staff, Volunteers, Contractors, External Education Providers, parents/guardians and other family members. This policy applies in all College environments, both physical and online, and on-site and off- site College grounds (e.g. camps and excursions).

Statement of Commitment to Child Safety and Wellbeing

All children and young people who come to Helena College 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 are able to actively participate in decisions that affect their lives.

We have a zero tolerance for child 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 responsibilities with the utmost importance and as such, is committed to providing the necessary resources to ensure compliance with all relevant child protection laws and regulations and maintaining a child safe culture.

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.

The College’s Statement of Commitment to Child Safety has been designed to reflect the National Principles for Child Safe Organisations.

Children’s Rights to Safety, Information and Participation

Helena College is a child safe and child-centred organisation. Our environment is friendly and welcoming to all children and young people.

We actively seek to include students in decisions that affect them. This includes decisions about organisational planning, delivery of services, management of facilities, and classroom learning and assessment environments.

We ensure students know about their rights to safety, information and participation. We recognise the importance of friendships and support from peers. We actively seek to understand what makes students feel safe in our organisation and regularly communicate with students about what they can do if they feel unsafe.

Review

Authors	Date	Comments
Risk and Compliance	25/5/2020	Updated and amendment to policy as per CompliSpace guidelines