



Parade College 'Child Safety Policy' - Student Information Sheet

What does our school value and why is child safety important in our school?

Parade College is committed to the care, safety, and well-being of all our students. Our commitment is drawn from and centred in the teaching and mission of Jesus Christ. In the tradition of Edmund Rice, we wish to create an environment of care, safety, respect, empowerment, and fairness for all in our diverse community. Parade College has zero tolerance for child abuse.

Why does Parade have a child safety policy?

The purpose of our Child Safe Policy is to demonstrate the strong commitment of Parade College to the care, safety, and wellbeing of all students at our school. It provides information on how we keep students safe from harm, including physical, sexual, emotional abuse, bullying and neglect) in our school environment, on campus, online and in other locations provided by the school.

What are the important ideas that guide our actions?

All students at Parade College are entitled, as a fundamental right, to feel safe and protected from all forms of abuse and neglect.

Parade works in partnership with relevant groups and the entire school community in decision-making that have an impact on child safety and protection.

All students have the right to an understanding of personal safety.

All Staff Members engaged with the College and its students, have a responsibility to care for children and young people, to positively promote their wellbeing and to protect them from any kind of harm or abuse.



How do we keep students safe?

Parade College ensures the safety of children and young people through the following actions:

- adults at the College must meet behavioural standards set out by law and a number of other documents such as the Child Safety Policy, the Code of Conduct, and the Child Safe Code of Conduct and the VIT Code of Conduct; these documents are available on the College website
- adults at the College are checked to ensure they are suitable to work with children
- every year, relevant adults at the College undertake specific child safety training
- adults at the College are required by law to make a report if that adult has a concern about a child's safety
- meetings of the College have child safety as an agenda item for discussion
- activities of the College have child safety as an item for risk assessment
- The College encourages student voice on child safety. Students can provide feedback to the College through student surveys, and the Student Child Safety Committee. Students with concerns or ideas around child safety are encouraged to speak up.



What is abuse?

Physical abuse occurs when a child suffers significant harm from an injury. The injury may be inflicted intentionally or may be the unintentional consequence of physical punishment or physically aggressive treatment of a child. Some examples of physical abuse include hitting, punching, burning, or shaking a child.

Emotional Abuse affects a child's self-esteem and their psychological and emotional well-being. Emotional abuse can include being repeatedly isolated, rejected, continual coldness, excluding and distancing by a child, or putting down and calling a child demeaning names.

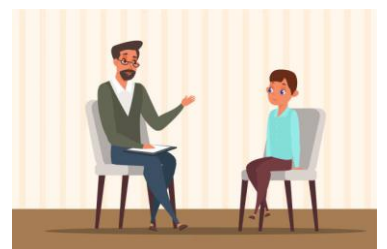
Sexual Abuse occurs when a person uses power, force, or authority to involve a child or young person or adult in any form of unwanted or illegal sexual activity. This can involve touching or no contact at all. This may take the form of taking sexually explicit photographs or videos of children, forcing children to watch or take part in sexual acts and forcing or manipulating children to have sex or engage in sexual acts with other children or adults.

Grooming occurs when a person engages in predatory conduct to prepare a child or young person for sexual activity later. Grooming can include communicating and/or attempting to befriend or establish a relationship or other emotional connection with the child or their parent/carer.

What do I do if I feel unsafe?

If you feel unsafe or believe you have been abused, you can tell any teacher or adult at the College.

- If you think someone else has been abused or is not safe you should talk to a teacher or adult at the College or an adult, you trust. Help your friend or any young person by encouraging them to tell a trusted adult. Even if they specifically ask you not to talk it is important you **do not** make a promise not to tell an adult. A trusted adult can help both you and your friend to seek help and assistance. We need to make sure that everybody is helped and feels protected.
- All adults working at the College have a responsibility to protect any child under their care. They will be able to help you.
- The information **will not** be shared with the people that make them feel unsafe.
- The information will only be shared with people that can help, support, and protect you.
- Sometimes adults at the school will need by law to tell the police, the Department of Health and Human Services' Child Protection and /or family to prevent any further abuse or risk of abuse.



Child Safety Reporting Process

Who can you talk to if you have a concern?



Parent /
Guardian/
An adult we
trust



Staff /
Volunteer

What can be reported?

How can you make a report?

All child safety concerns that include:

- Disclosure (from another person) of abuse or harm
- Allegation / suspicion / observation of abuse or harm
- A breach of the School's Child Safe Policy / Code of Conduct
- Safety issues in the school's environment (buildings / resources)

We can make a report to:

- All teachers / Tutor Teachers
- Any Child Safeguarding Officer (please check the list displayed next to this poster)
- We can make a report in person, via letter / email / telephone call.

What will happen when a report is made?

The Principal and Dean of Child Safety will:

- Offer support to you by making the report and the person accused (where practicable)
- Initiate the appropriate processes to ensure your safety.
- Investigate the matter and decide, as per legal requirements and duty of care, whether the matter must be reported to Child Protection / the police

Make the report as soon as possible where required

The outcome of all matters reported will be made available to you /your parents or your guardians and staff where necessary and appropriate to do so.

If you cannot find an adult or do not feel comfortable Please Call 000