



Child Safe Standard 7

POLICY DETAILS

Policy Title	Child Safe Standard 7
Creation Date	17 th August 2017
Review Date	30 th March 2018
Ratified	By School Council August 2017

At Harcourt Valley Primary School, we not only have a zero tolerance for child abuse, but foster an environment that supports health teaching to students on risks and how to deal with them. We aim to be proactive in our approach and offer a relaxed and reassuring setting for this to take place.

Education can quite often be the key to a child understanding that something happening to them is wrong. By offering nurturing environments within our school, we aim to encourage children that are at risk to find protection and guidance with our staff.

Initiatives and resources that support the standards of behaviour for students attending Harcourt Valley Primary School are:

STUDENT ENGAGEMENT POLICY

Every government school must have a Student Engagement Policy which provides the basis on which they can develop and maintain safe, supportive and inclusive school environments. As part of this, Student Engagement Policies should also articulate the expectations and aspirations of the school community in relation to student engagement, including strategies to address bullying, school attendance and behaviour.

A school's policy should be developed in consultation with the wider school community including school leaders, teachers, students and parents.

Our policy is the Student Engagement and Inclusion Policy and it can be found on our website and at the Administration Office.

<http://www.education.vic.gov.au/school/principals/spag/participation/Pages/policydev.aspx>

RESPECTFUL RELATIONSHIPS EDUCATION

Respectful Relationships Education focuses on helping students in Prep to Year 10 challenge negative attitudes such as discrimination and harassment that can lead to violence, often against women.

<http://www.education.vic.gov.au/school/teachers/health/Pages/respectrel.aspx>



HEALTH EDUCATION POLICIES

School councils must develop health education policies to support the health messages being delivered within the classroom and with school community input: students, parents and teachers. All school staff must:

- be conscious of issues related to the disclosure of personal information
- give careful consideration prior to approval of collection of sensitive information
- not promote their own personal preferences
- select health education materials with care.

SEXUALITY EDUCATION

Comprehensive, inclusive sexuality education is a compulsory part of a school's health education curriculum, taught and assessed by teachers.

The promotion of sexual health is a responsibility shared between schools, the local health and welfare community, and parents. School-based sexuality education programs are more effective when they are developed in consultation with parents and the local community. Learning and teaching in sexuality education should be developmentally appropriate.

Schools must support and respect sexuality diversity including same sex attraction.

MENTAL HEALTH PROMOTION

All health education learning and teaching programs should aim to build student resilience and peer support practices to promote a student's ability to look after oneself, recognise and be aware of one's needs in others, and awareness of appropriate supports in school and in the community. Promoting Healthy Minds for Living and Learning web page provides materials to support school staff create environments conducive to mental health. <http://www.education.vic.gov.au/childhood/providers/health/Pages/earlychildhood.aspx>

SAFE SCHOOLS HUB FOR STUDENTS

Students have their own Safe Schools site, with carefully selected, age-appropriate online resources to engage them in the challenge of creating safe places to learn and grow. <http://www.safeschoolshub.edu.au/home>

HEALTHY TOGETHER ACHIEVEMENT PROGRAM

An initiative to support schools to create healthier environments for learning. It can assist schools to integrate health and wellbeing activities into strategic and annual plans to improve student engagement and wellbeing outcomes. The Achievement Program provides an evidence-based framework and resources to support schools to take a whole-school approach to promoting health and improving student engagement and wellbeing. This includes supporting the health and wellbeing of students, staff and families through learning, policies, creating a healthy physical and social environment, and developing community links and partnerships. <http://www.achievementprogram.healthytogether.vic.gov.au/>

KIDSMATTER

KidsMatter Primary provides the methods, tools and support to help schools work with parents and carers, health services and the wider community, to nurture happy, balanced kids. <http://www.kidsmatter.edu.au/primary>

RESOURCES TO SUPPORT RESILIENCE

Building Resilience: A model to support children and young people

Building Resilience: A Model to Support Children and Young People provides an evidence-based approach to developing social and emotional learning skills and enhancing resilience. It recommends taking a multi-dimensional, school-wide approach to supporting resilience and engagement, which has a positive impact on social and academic outcomes.

This Model has been developed in an online portal, designed to help schools easily access programs, tools and resources which support resilience building in children and young people.

<http://www.education.vic.gov.au/about/department/Pages/resilienceframework.aspx>

RESOURCES TO SUPPORT CHILD ABUSE AWARENESS AND PREVENTION

DANIEL MORCOMBE CHILD SAFETY CURRICULUM

The Daniel Morcombe Child Safety Curriculum was developed by Queensland's Department of Education, Training and Employment (DETE) in partnership with the Daniel Morcombe Foundation. The Department of Education and Early Childhood Development partnered with DETE to make the Curriculum available for use in Victorian schools.

The Curriculum is aligned with the Draft Australian Curriculum, and consists of classroom lessons across three levels: Prep - Year 2, Years 3-6 and Years 7-9. It aims to teach children about personal safety, including cybersafety and phone safety, and focuses on three key safety messages: Recognise, React and Report.

Parent guides have also been developed to inform parents about the Curriculum and help them reinforce the key safety messages at home.

Government schools see: <https://fuse.education.vic.gov.au/pages/Teacher.aspx> (Edumail password is required before searching Daniel Morcombe Child Safety Curriculum)

CHILD WISE PERSONAL SAFETY EDUCATION PROGRAM

The aim of the Personal Safety education program is to teach children and young people how to be more assertive and resilient to risks. It teaches children and young people about their own feelings relating to safety and how to build safety networks. Most importantly it educates children about how to tell someone if anyone is harming them.

<http://www.childwise.org.au/page/21/wise-child-protective-behaviours>

STANDARD REVIEW

This standard will be reviewed in conjunction with the school Principal each year by the elected School Council. Any changes will be made in accordance to the Victorian Education Department and VRQA guidelines. All revisions will be documented.

REVISION HISTORY

Version	Date	Revisions Made
1	17/8/17	Standard created