

FOUNTAIN GATE SECONDARY COLLEGE

CHILD SAFE POLICY



Rationale:

Fountain Gate Secondary College is and has always been committed to child safety. This requires the Fountain Gate Secondary College to develop, implement, monitor and evaluate risk management strategies to ensure child safety in school environments.

Aims:

Identify Fountain Gate Secondary College's child safety risks.

1. Identify any risk mitigation measures and internal controls.
2. Assess and rate the Fountain Gate Secondary College's child safety risks given the existing controls in place, taking into account the likelihood of risk, and the likely consequence of the risk.
3. If the risk is more than the "acceptable level", identify further risk management strategies through additional controls or prevention, detection or mitigation strategies and then reassess the risk.
4. To ensure Fountain Gate Secondary College processes and practices respond to the recommendations of the Betrayal of Trust inquiry by enacting Ministerial Order No. 870, address Child Safe Standards and meet the requirements for VRQA registration.

Implementation:

- Fountain Gate Secondary College will have zero tolerance of child abuse. The child abuse includes physical violence, sexual offences, serious emotional or psychological abuse and serious neglect.
- All people engaged or recruited for child-related work, including volunteers, are required to hold a current Working with Children Check and/or VIT teacher registration to provide evidence for the Fountain Gate Secondary College's records. This is consistent with the Fountain Gate Secondary College Staff Register Policy and Working with Children Check Policy.
- Implement the Fountain Gate Secondary College Mandatory Reporting Policy and ensure new teachers are inducted and that it is included in the staff manual that is available to all staff. The Mandatory Reporting policy articulates legislative requirements for staff and advice

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- on when and how to make reports.
- Any allegations of abuse and/or safety concerns and any subsequent school investigations will be documented and securely stored.
 - The induction process for volunteers will include guidance on how to respond if they have concerns about a child's safety.
 - Ensure appropriate supervision of all classes, excursions, camps and school environment. This is consistent with the Fountain Gate Secondary College Excursion, Incursion, Onsite Supervision policies and Camps Guidelines which articulate expectations and risk management strategies. In turn, these align with DET policies and procedures.
 - Fountain Gate Secondary College is committed to cultural safety for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children, cultural safety for children from culturally and/or linguistically diverse backgrounds, and to providing a safe environment for children with a disability by making appropriate accommodations.
 - Key staff will be identified within the school that have knowledge of child safety issues and will act as the key contact point for others who have questions or concerns or want to report an allegation of child abuse. These key staff are the Principal Team, the College Wellbeing Leader and others as identified in the Mandatory Reporting policy.
 - Proactive strategies to address e-safety including through activities associated with our membership of the Alannah and Madeline Foundation.
 - Implementation of the bullying and harassment mitigation strategies.
 - Membership of the Safe School Coalition and Respectful Relationships.

Links:

Education and Training Reform Act 2006

Child Safe Standards – Managing the Risk of Child Abuse in Schools
Ministerial Order No. 870

Fountain Gate Secondary College Policies

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- Staff Register
- Working with Children Check
- Mandatory Reporting
- Student Wellbeing and Engagement Policy
- Excursion Policy
- Incursion Policy
- Camps Policy
- Bullying Prevention Policy
- Safe School Coalition
- Alannah and Madeline Foundation E Smart School
- Respectful Relationships

Evaluation:

This policy will be reviewed as part of the school's three-year review cycle

Developed: April 2019

Reviewed June 2020

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