

## Child Safe Standards

Advance College has adopted the following Standards in response to the *Ministerial Order No. 870 - Child Safe Standards - Managing the risk of child abuse in schools (August 2016)*.

Across all Child Safe Standards Advance College promotes:

- The cultural safety of Aboriginal children
- The cultural safety of children from culturally and/or linguistically diverse backgrounds
- The safety of children with a disability

To create and maintain a child safe organisation, Advance College has:

- Strategies to embed an organisational culture of child safety, including through effective leadership arrangements (Standard 1)
- A child safe policy which includes a statement of commitment to child safety (Standard 2)
- A code of conduct that establishes clear expectations for appropriate behaviour with children (Standard 3)
- Screening, supervision, training and other human resources practices that reduce the risk of child abuse by new and existing personnel (Standard 4)
- Processes for responding to and reporting suspected child abuse (Standard 5)
- Strategies to identify and reduce or remove risks of child abuse (Standard 6)
- Strategies to promote the participation and empowerment of children (Standard 7)

The College's commitment to child safety is based on the following overarching principles that guide the development and regular review of our work systems, practices, policies and procedures to protect children from abuse:

- All children have the right to be safe.
- The welfare and best interests of the child are paramount.
- The views of the child and a child's privacy must be respected.
- Clear expectations for appropriate behaviour with children are established in our Child Safety Code of Conduct and Staff and Student Professional Boundaries Policy.
- The safety of children is dependent upon the existence of a child safe culture.
- Child safety awareness is promoted and openly discussed within our College community.
- Procedures are in place to screen all staff, Direct Contact Volunteers\* third party contractors and external education providers who have direct contact with children.
- Child safety and protection is everyone's responsibility.
- Child protection training is mandatory for all College Board Members, staff and Direct Contact Volunteers.
- Procedures for responding to alleged or suspected incidents of child abuse are simple and accessible for all members of the College community.
- Children from culturally or linguistically diverse backgrounds have the right to special care and support including those who identify as Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander.
- Children who have any kind of disability have the right to special care and support.

**\*\*Direct Contact Volunteers** are those volunteers that are involved in providing support, guidance and supervision directly to students and could potentially have direct unsupervised contact with students during the normal course of providing the volunteer service.

Examples of Direct Contact Volunteer activities may include volunteers involved in College camps and excursions, coaching sporting teams or assisting in learning activities.

### **Associated Documents**

- AC - Child Safe Policy and Procedure
- AC - Child Safe Risk Assessment Matrix
- AC - Child Safe Risk Management Strategy
- AC - Child Safe Code of Conduct
- AC - Child Safe Incident Report
- AC - Child Safe Education Strategy
- Ministerial Order 870 Child Safe Standards