



SALE PRIMARY SCHOOL  
No. 545

# Child Safety Policy

Sale Primary School embraces the values of Respect, Honesty, Enjoyment, Resilience and Success. We aim to have students recognise their fullest potential through the acquisition of knowledge, skills and values in an environment where they learn and grow to enjoy a productive, rewarding and fulfilling life. In support of this

***At Sale Primary School,  
we have a zero tolerance to child abuse.***

## **Rationale:**

All Victorian schools are required to have a child safety policy or statement of commitment to child safety that details;

- the principles that will guide the school in developing policies and procedures to create and maintain a child safe school environment; and
- the actions the school proposes to take to:
  - demonstrate its commitment to child safety and monitor the school's adherence to its child safety policy;
  - support, encourage and enable school staff, parents, and children to understand, identify, discuss and report child safety matters; and
  - support or assist children who disclose child abuse, or are otherwise linked to suspected child abuse.
  - respect the cultural safety of Aboriginal children and children from culturally and/or linguistically diverse backgrounds, as well as the safety of children with a disability.
- Ensure that child safety is considered in the recruitment, selection and management of staff (includes contractors and volunteers)
- Failure to Comply and Failure to Disclose Sexual Abuse:
  - If you are a mandated reporter, failure to notify your belief, when you have reasonable grounds, is an offence under the Children, Youth and Families Act 2005 (Vic.) and can lead to criminal prosecution.
  - The offence for Failure to disclose child sexual abuse to the police came into effect on 27 October 2014. The offence requires that any adult who holds a reasonable belief that a sexual offence has been committed in Victoria by an adult against a child (aged under 16) must disclose that information to police. Failure to disclose the information to police is a criminal offence.
  - The offence applies to all adults, not just professionals who are mandated to report all forms of child abuse. Therefore, Board Directors, parent volunteers and senior students 18 years and over are also obliged to make a report.

**Ministerial Order No. 870 (available at [www.vrqa.vic.gov.au/childsafe](http://www.vrqa.vic.gov.au/childsafe)) states that Child abuse includes –**

- Any act committed against a child involving –
  - A sexual offence or
  - An offence under section 49 B (2) of the *Crimes Act 1958* (grooming)
  
- The infliction, on a child, of –
  - Physical violence or
  - Serious emotional or psychological harm
  
- Serious neglect of a child.

**Evaluation:**

This policy will be reviewed in consultation with the whole school community as part of the school's three-year review cycle.

This policy was last ratified by School Council in	<b>May 2018</b>	
--	-----------------	--

Next review date	<b>May 2021</b>	
------------------	-----------------	--