



Child Safety Code of Conduct

CATHOLIC IDENTITY STATEMENT

St John's Catholic school is a community, inspired by truth, love and service, that challenges and supports each person to be the best they can be.

All staff and volunteers of St. John's School Euroa are required to observe child safe principles and expectations for appropriate behaviours towards and in the company of children, as noted below.

Acceptable Behaviour

All staff, volunteers and School Board members are responsible for supporting the safety of children by:

- Adhering to the school's child safe policy and upholding the school's statement of commitment to child safety at all times.
- Taking all reasonable steps to protect children from abuse.
- Treat everyone in the school community with respect.
- Listening and responding to the views and concerns of children, particularly if they are telling you that they, or another child has been abused, or that they are worried about their safety/the safety of another child.
- Promoting the cultural safety, participation and empowerment of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children (eg. by never questioning an Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander child's self identification).
- Promoting the cultural safety, participation and empowerment of children with culturally and/or linguistically diverse backgrounds (eg. by having zero tolerance of discrimination).
- Promoting the safety, participation and empowerment of children with a disability (eg. during personal care activities).
- Ensuring as far as practicable that adults are not alone with a child.
- Reporting any allegations of child abuse and/or child safety concerns to the school's leadership.
- Ensuring as quickly as possible that children are safe, if any allegations of child abuse has been made.
- Understanding and complying with all reporting obligations as they relate to mandatory reporting and reporting under the *Crimes Act 1958*.



Unacceptable Behaviour

Staff and volunteers must not:

- Ignore or disregard any suspected or disclosed child abuse.
- Develop any "special" relationships with children that could be seen as favouritism (eg. the offering of gifts or special treatment for specific children).
- Exhibit behaviours with children which may be construed as unnecessarily physical (eg. inappropriate sitting on laps).
- Put children at risk of abuse (eg. by locking doors).
- Initiate unnecessary physical contact with children or doing things of a personal nature that a child can do for themselves, such as toileting or changing clothes.
- Engage in open discussion of a mature or adult nature in the presence of children (eg. personal/social activities).
- Use inappropriate language in the presence of children.
- Express personal views on cultures, race or sexuality in the presence of children.
- Discriminate against any child, including because of age, gender, race, culture, vulnerability, sexuality, ethnicity or disability.
- Have contact with a child outside of school without the school's leadership knowledge and/or consent to the governing authorities (eg. unauthorised after hour tutoring, private instrumental/other lessons or sports coaching). Accidental contact such as seeing people in the street is appropriate.
- Have any online contact with a child, (including by social media, email, instant messaging etc), or their family (unless necessary eg. by providing families with e-newsletters or assisting students with their school work).
- Use any personal communication channels/devices such as a personal email account.
- Exchange personal contact details such as phone number, social networking sites or personal email.
- Photograph or video a child without consent of parent or guardian.
- Work with children whilst under the influence of alcohol or illegal drugs.
- Consume alcohol or drugs at school or a school event in the presence of children.

I _____ confirm I have read and

understood the above code of conduct and have been provided with a copy for my records.

Principal: Mr Paul Maher
37 Anderson Street, Euroa. 3666
Phone: (03) 5795 2937 Fax: (03) 5795 1256
Email: principal@sjeuroa.catholic.edu.au

June 2016



St John's Primary School Euroa

Signed: _____

Date: _____

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