



## **EASTBOURNE PRIMARY SCHOOL Child Safety Code of Conduct Policy**

**All staff, volunteers and board members of Eastbourne Primary School are required to observe child safe principles and expectations for appropriate behaviour towards and in the company of children, as noted below.**

**All personnel of Eastbourne Primary School are responsible for supporting the safety, participation, wellbeing and empowerment of children by:**

- adhering to Eastbourne Primary School's child safe policy at all times and upholding Eastbourne Primary School's statement of commitment to child safety at all time
- taking all reasonable steps to protect children from abuse
- treating everyone 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 and/or are worried about their safety or the safety of another
- promoting the cultural safety, participation and empowerment of First Nation children (for example, by never questioning an First Nation child's self-identification)
- promoting the cultural safety, participation and empowerment of children with culturally and/or linguistically diverse backgrounds (for example, by having a zero tolerance of discrimination)
- promoting the safety, participation and empowerment of children with a disability (for example, during personal care activities)
- ensuring as far as practicable that adults are not left alone with a child
- reporting any allegations of child abuse to Eastbourne Primary School's leadership, and ensure any allegation to reported to the police or child protection
- reporting any child safety concerns to Eastbourne Primary School's leadership if an allegation of child abuse is made, ensure as quickly as possible that the child(ren) are safe
- encouraging children to 'have a say' and participate in all relevant organisational activities where possible, especially on issues that are important to them.

**Staff and volunteers must not:**

- develop any 'special' relationships with children that could be seen as favouritism that does not reasonably support the development and/or wellbeing of the child (for example, the offering of gifts or special treatment for specific children which may be construed as unnecessary and/or damaging to the child's wellbeing or development)
- exhibit behaviours with children which may be construed as unnecessarily physical (for example inappropriate sitting on laps. Sitting on laps could be appropriate sometime, for example while reading a storybook to a small child in the school's playgroup)
- put children at risk of abuse (for example, by locking doors)
- do things of a personal nature that a child can do for themselves, such as toileting or changing clothes
- engage in open discussions of a mature or adult nature in the presence of children (for example, 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 culture, race, ethnicity or disability
- have contact with a child or their family outside of our organisation without school leadership’s knowledge and/or consent (for example, no babysitting). Accidental contact, such as seeing people in the street, is appropriate.
- have any online contact with a child or their family (unless necessary, for example providing families with e-newsletters)
- ignore or disregard any suspected or disclosed child abuse.

By observing these standards you acknowledge your responsibility to immediately report any breach of this code to leadership.

If you believe a child is at immediate risk of abuse phone 000.

If you believe a child is in need of protection as a result of physical injury or sexual abuse, and the child’s parents are unable or unwilling to protect the child phone the Department of Health and Human Services 1300 655 795.

If you have significant concerns about the wellbeing of a child phone ChildFIRST 1300 721 383.

I agree to adhere to this Code of Conduct:

Name: .....

Signature: .....

Date: .....

**REVIEW CYCLE**

This policy was last updated March 2024 and is scheduled for review in March 2025.