

## **JAMES COOK PRIMARY SCHOOL COUNCIL** **CHILD SAFETY POLICY**



### **Rationale:**

James Cook Primary School is committed to child safety. This requires the school to develop, implement, monitor and evaluate risk management strategies to ensure child safety in the school environment.

### **Aims:**

1. Identify the school's child safety risks.
2. Identify any risk mitigation measures and internal controls.
3. Assess and rate the school's child safety risks given the existing controls in place, taking into account the likelihood of risk, and the likely consequence of the risk.
4. 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.
5. To ensure James Cook Primary School 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:**

- James Cook Primary School 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, requiring a current National Criminal Records Check, to provide evidence for James Cook Primary School's records. This is consistent with the James Cook Primary School's VIT Staff Register Policy and Working with Children Check Policy.
- Implement the James Cook Primary School 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 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 James Cook Primary School Excursion, Incursion, Onsite Supervision policies and Camps Guidelines which articulate expectations and risk management strategies. All such policies align with DET policies and procedures.
- The James Cook Primary School is committed to cultural safety for Aboriginal 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. Key staff are: the Principal team, the Wellbeing Leader and Student Wellbeing Manager and others as identified in the Mandatory Reporting policy.
- Proactive strategies to address e-safety including activities associated with our membership of the Allannah and Madeline Foundation.
- Implementation of the bullying and harassment mitigation strategies
- Membership of the Safe School Coalition

**Links:**

**Education and Training Reform Act 2006**

Child Safe Standards – Managing The Risk Of Child Abuse In Schools  
Ministerial Order No. 870

**James Cook Primary School Policies:**

- VIT Staff Register Policy
- Working with Children Check Policy
- Mandatory Reporting Policy
- Excursion Incursion Camps Policy
- Duty of Care and Onsite Supervision Policy
- Anti-bullying and Harassment Policy

Safe School Coalition

Alannah and Madeline Foundation

E Smart School

**Evaluation:**

This policy will be reviewed bi-annually or more often if necessary due to changes in regulations or circumstances