



**Safeguarding Children and Young People
Code of Conduct
St James Catholic Primary School, Brighton
26/5/2017**

St. James Catholic Primary School is a faith filled community that aspires to equip young people with the knowledge, skills and optimism to enrich the world and live meaningful lives.

Purpose

This Code of Conduct has a specific focus on safeguarding children and young people at **St James Primary School, Brighton** against sexual, physical, psychological and emotional abuse or neglect. It is intended to complement other professional and/or occupational codes.

All staff, volunteers, contractors, clergy and board/school council members at **St James Primary School** are expected to actively contribute to a school culture that respects the dignity of its members and affirms the Gospel values of love, care for others, compassion and justice. They are required to observe child safe principles and expectations for appropriate behaviour towards and in the company of children, as noted below.

Acceptable behaviours

All staff, volunteers, contractors, clergy and board/school council members are responsible for supporting the safety of children by:

- treating everyone in the school community with respect (modelling positive and respectful relationships and acting in a manner that sustains a safe, educational and pastoral environment)
- adhering to the St James' child-safe policy and upholding the school's statement of commitment to child safety at all times
- understanding and complying with all reporting obligations as they relate to mandatory reporting and reporting of the Crimes Act 1958 (Vic)

- listening and responding to the views and concerns of children, particularly if they are telling you that they or another child have been abused or that they are worried about their safety/the safety of another child
- ensuring the safety of a child or children is secured as quickly as possible if an allegation of child abuse is made
- providing adequate supervision of children at all times
- promoting the safety, participation and empowerment of all children
- witnessing and documenting sensitive conversations; reporting any child safety concerns to the school's leadership

Unacceptable behaviours

All staff, volunteers, contractors, clergy and board/school council members must not:

- ignore or disregard any suspected or disclosed child abuse
- put a child at risk of abuse (for example, leave unsupervised)
- exhibit behaviours with children which may be construed as unnecessarily physical
- be alone with a student 1:1 without being visible to others
- abuse power which causes harm either physically, psychologically or emotionally
- use language or behaviour towards or in the presence of children that is inappropriate, harassing, abusive, sexually provocative, demeaning or culturally inappropriate
- view or be in the possession of inappropriate content in hard copy or on electronic devices
- photograph or video a child without consent of parents or guardians
- work with children under the influence of alcohol or illegal drugs
- consume alcohol or drugs at school or at school events in the presence of children