



Jacana School
for Autism
"Learning for Life"

SCHOOL CHILD SAFETY TEAM (Child Safe Standard 1)

Key activities of a school Child Safety Officer/leader role: School leaders for child safety should have sufficient status and authority, including leadership support and the ability to direct other staff (where appropriate), to undertake the role effectively.

Our Child Safety Team (Child Safety Officers) will be comprised of the Leadership Team and the Welfare Team.

Broad areas of the role are to:

Provide authoritative advice:

- Act as a source of support, advice and expertise to staff on matters of child safety.
- Liaise with the principal and school leaders to maintain the visibility of child safety.
- Lead the development of the school's child safety culture, including being a child safety champion and providing coordination in communicating, implementing, monitoring, enhancing and reporting on strategies to embed a culture of child safety.

Raise awareness to:

- Ensure the school's policies are known and used appropriately.
- Ensure the school's Child Safe Environment Policy is reviewed in the context of school self-evaluation undertaken as part of the school accountability framework.
- Ensure the Mandatory Reporting Policy is available publicly and parents are aware of the fact that referrals about suspected abuse or neglect may be made and the role of the school in this.
- Be alert to the specific needs of children in need, those with special educational needs and young carers.
- Encourage among all staff a culture of listening to children and taking account of their wishes and feelings in any measures to protect them.

Provide training to:

- Be authoritative in providing advice by:
 - o keeping their skills up to date with appropriate training carried out every two years
 - o having a working knowledge of how the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) and Community Service Organisations conduct a child protection case conference to be able to attend and contribute to these effectively when required to do so
- Be able to keep detailed, accurate, secure written records of concerns and referrals.
- Ensure each member of staff has access to and understands the school's Child Safe Environment Policy, Mandatory Reporting Policy and Duty of Care Policy including its procedures, especially for new and part time staff.
- Make sure staff are aware of training opportunities and the latest DHHS and DET policies and guidance.



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EVALUATION

This document will be reviewed as part of the school's review cycle or if guidelines change

Ratified by School Council	
Review Date	