



CHILD SAFETY POLICY: STUDENT VERSION

At St Brigid's College, we hold the care, safety and wellbeing of children and young people as a central and fundamental responsibility of our school. Our commitment is drawn from and inherent in the teaching and mission of Jesus Christ, with love, justice and the sanctity of each human person at the heart of the gospel. *(Victorian Catholic School Statement of Commitment to Child Safety)*

ALL STUDENTS ENROLLED AT ST BRIGID'S COLLEGE HAVE THE RIGHT TO FEEL SAFE AND BE SAFE.

The following principles underpin our commitment to child safety at St Brigid's College:

- All students deserve safety and protection from all forms of abuse and neglect
- All adults in our school, including teaching and support staff, clergy, volunteers, and contractors, have a responsibility to care for children and young people, to positively promote their wellbeing and to protect them from any kind of harm or abuse
- The care, wellbeing and protection of students is based on honest and respectful relationships between adults and young people
- Staff, clergy, volunteers, contractors, parents/guardians and students should feel free to raise concerns about child safety, knowing these will be taken seriously and treated with confidentiality by school leadership.

Our commitment to our students:

- We commit to the safety and wellbeing of all children and young people enrolled in our school
- We commit to taking action to ensure that young people are protected from abuse and harm
- We commit to seeking feedback from students regarding the creation of a safe school environment
- We commit to continuously reviewing and improving our systems to protect children from abuse.

Responsibilities of our staff:

- Treat young people with dignity and respect, providing a duty of care and protecting young people
- Follow school process if staff believe that a young person has been or is being abused or neglected
- Provide a safe environment where the wellbeing of young people is nurtured
- Assist young people to develop positive, responsible and caring attitudes and behaviours
- Follow the school's Child Safety Code of Conduct.

Responsibilities of our students:

- Treat all students, staff, and visitors with dignity and respect
- Report unsafe behaviours and practices both inside and outside of school.

Child Safe Procedures

At St Brigid's College, we listen to and act on any concerns that students or their parents or guardians raise with us. When concerned about their safety, students and parents/guardians can:

- Seek assistance from a staff member. This may include but is not limited to their Teacher Advisor or a member of the Student Wellbeing Team
- Contact the school's Child Safety Officers: Mr Leigh McDonald or Mrs Chris Rook
- Send a confidential email to the Child Safety Officers - lmcdonald@stbc.vic.edu.au or crook@stbc.vic.edu.au or to the students' Teacher Advisor.