

Child Safe Statement of Commitment

Spensley Street Primary School is committed to the safety and wellbeing of all our students.

Spensley Street Primary School has zero tolerance for child abuse.

Spensley Street Primary is committed to providing a child safe environment where our students feel safe, and their voices are heard about decisions that affect their lives. Particular attention will be paid to the cultural safety of Aboriginal children and children from culturally and/or linguistically diverse backgrounds, as well as the safety of children with a disability.

Every person involved in Spensley Street Primary School has a responsibility to understand the important and specific role they play individually and collectively to ensure that the wellbeing and safety of all students is at the forefront of all they do and every decision they make.

In our planning, decision-making and operations, Spensley Street Primary School will:

1. Take a preventative, proactive and participatory approach to child safety.
2. Value and empower children to participate in decisions that affect their lives.
3. Foster a culture of openness that supports all persons to safely disclose risks of harm to children.
4. Respect diversity in cultures and child rearing practices while keeping child safety paramount.
5. Provide written guidance on appropriate conduct and behaviour towards children.
6. Engage only the most suitable people to work with children and provide them with appropriate high quality professional development.
7. Ensure volunteers and visitors are appropriately supervised, following School, Department of Education and Victorian Government regulations and procedures.
8. Ensure children know who to talk with if they are worried or are feeling unsafe, and that they are comfortable and encouraged to raise such issues.
9. Report suspected abuse, neglect or mistreatment promptly to the appropriate authorities.
10. Share information appropriately and lawfully with other organisations where the safety and wellbeing of children is at risk.
11. Value the input of, and communicate regularly with, families and carers.