

Child Safe Standards 2016 COMMITMENT TO CHILD SAFETY

WARATAH
SPECIAL
DEVELOPMENTAL
SCHOOL



Dear School Community,

As you may be aware, all Victorian Schools, including Waratah SDS, have been working toward ensuring compliance with Ministerial Order No. 870 regarding Child Safety Standards in Victorian Schools.

This is part of Waratah SDS's 'Commitment to Child Safety'.

*Waratah SDS takes a zero-tolerance approach to child abuse and is fully committed to ensuring that its strategies, policies, procedures and practices meet all **Child Safety Standards as specified in Ministerial Order No. 870 (2015).***

Waratah SDS is fully committed to child safety.

We want our students to be safe, happy and empowered. We support and respect all students, as well as our staff and volunteers.

Waratah SDS is committed to the safety, participation and empowerment of all students. Informing and educating students about child safety issues is incorporated into the curriculum through whole school initiatives and educational programs such as Positive Behaviour Support and So Safe.

We have zero tolerance of child abuse, and all allegations and safety concerns will be treated very seriously and consistently with our clear policies and procedures.

We have legal and moral obligations to contact authorities when we are worried about a student's safety, which we follow rigorously.

Waratah SDS is committed to preventing child abuse and identifying risks early, and removing and reducing these risks.

We have excellent human resources and recruitment practices for all staff and volunteers.

Waratah SDS is committed to regularly training and educating our staff and volunteers on child abuse risks.

We support and respect all students, as well as our staff and volunteers. We are committed to the cultural safety of Aboriginal children, the cultural safety of children from culturally and/or linguistically diverse backgrounds, and to providing a safe environment for all students with disabilities.

We have specific policies, procedures and training in place that support our leadership team, staff and volunteers to achieve these commitments.

If we believe a child is at immediate risk of abuse we will phone 000.

Jenny Wallace

Principal

Linda Bollas

School Council President

References

VRQA Website <http://www.vrqa.vic.gov.au/childsafe/Pages/default.html>

DET Website <http://www.education.vic.gov.au/childhood/providers/regulation/Pages/childsafestandards.aspx>

Commission for Children and Young People Website <http://www.ccyp.vic.gov.au/>