

Child Safety & Wellbeing Policy

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DOCUMENT REFERENCE: PPP036

RESPONSIBLE MANAGER: Executive
Governance

APPROVED DATE: 12/04/2024

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RELATED DOCUMENTS: Legislation: Ministerial Order 807 – Child Safe Standards.

Managing the Risk of Child Abuse in Schools

Child Wellbeing and Safety Act 2005

Child Safe Standards 2016

Documents: PPP012 Child Safety & Wellbeing Guideline

PPP083a Code of Conduct Child Safety

PPP106 Police and Working with Children Check PPP105 Recruitment and Selection Guidelines PPP141 Complaint Resolution and Appeal Procedure

PPP141a Student Complaints-Easy English

PPP149 Student Code of Conduct

PPP149a Student Code of Conduct-Easy English PPP149b Student Code of Conduct-addendum

PPP149c Student Code of Conduct-addendum - Easy English

PPP161 Risk Management Framework

Organisation Induction program & Annual Compliance Program

Child Safe Standards – VRQA guidelines and resources Department of Education and Training – Child Protect

Resources

1. Introduction

South West TAFE (SWTAFE or the 'Organisation) has a zero tolerance to child abuse and is committed to embedding an organisational culture of child safety. This Policy demonstrates a strong commitment to ensuring that children are safe when in the care of the organisation.

A Child Safety and Wellbeing Policy sets out the organisation's expectations, practices and approach in relation to each of the Child Safe Standards. (11.1, 11.2 and links to 2.3)

- ♦ 11.1 Policies and procedures address all Child Safe Standards.
- ♦ 11.2 Policies and procedures are documented and easy to understand.
- 2.3 Governance arrangements facilitate implementation of the Child Safety and Wellbeing Policy at all levels.

2. Scope

This Policy is applicable to all employees, students, visitors and contractors of South West TAFE.

3. Definitions

For the purposes of implementing a child safe culture and environment, a child is inclusive of anyone under the age of 18 years of age. It is not restricted to students of South West TAFE.

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4. Policy

South West TAFE is a child safe organisation committed to the protection of all children from all forms of child abuse and is passionate about the safety and wellbeing of all members of the SWTAFE community, especially children and younger people.

All students enrolled, and any child visiting South West TAFE, have a right to feel safe and be safe. The wellbeing of children in our care will always be our first priority and we have zero tolerance to child abuse. We aim to create a child safe and child friendly environment where children feel safe and are free to enjoy life to the full without any concern for their safety.

We demonstrate this commitment through the implementation of a Child Safe Program and through the promotion of safety of all children including the cultural safety for Aboriginal children, children from a culturally and/or linguistically diverse (CALD) backgrounds and by providing a safe environment for children with a disability.

South West TAFE regards its child protection responsibilities with the utmost importance and as such, is committed to providing the necessary resources to ensure alignment with all relevant child protection laws and regulations, and to maintain a child safe culture

5. Diversity, Equity and Inclusion

SWTAFE is committed to making diversity, equity and inclusion part of everything we do, including in the implementation of this policy/procedure/guideline. For more information, please visit the 'Our Values' page on our website [external] or the Diversity, Equity & Inclusion Homepage on ECHO [internal]. Diversity, Equity & Inclusion (DEI)

6. Statement of Commitment to Child Safety

South West TAFE is committed to the protection of all children from all forms of child abuse and demonstrates this commitment through the implementation of a Child Safe Program designed to keep children safe within our organisation. For Child Safe key documents, resources, contact officer details please go to: Child Safe Commitment

