

WOORAGEE PRIMARY SCHOOL CHILD SAFETY STATEMENT OF COMMITMENT 2021

Wooragee Primary School is committed to the safety and wellbeing of all children and young people. This will be the primary focus of our care and decision-making.

Wooragee Primary School's approach to creating and maintaining a child safe school environment is guided by our school philosophy and values. At Wooragee Primary School our vision is *'To nurture an authentic and sustainable living and learning school community.'* We know children can struggle to achieve their personal best if they are not safe from abuse.

At Wooragee Primary School our values guide the decisions and behaviours of all members of our school community, including in relation to child safety:

- Respect – for ourselves and others, our community and the environment
- Resilience – trying hard, bouncing back, persisting
- Responsibility – for our learning, our thoughts and our actions

Wooragee Primary School has zero tolerance for child abuse.

We are committed to providing a child safe environment where children and young people are safe and feel safe, and their voices are heard about decisions that affect their lives. Our child safe policies, procedures, strategies and practices will be inclusive of the needs of all children, particularly Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children, children from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds, children with disabilities, and children who are vulnerable

Every person involved in Wooragee 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 children and young people is at the forefront of all they do and every decision they make.

Child safety principles

In its planning, decision-making and operations, Wooragee Primary School will:

1. Take a preventative, proactive and participatory approach to child safety;
2. Value and empower children to participate in decisions which 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 have high quality staff and volunteer supervision and professional development;
7. 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 concerns;
8. Report suspected abuse, neglect or mistreatment promptly to the appropriate authorities;
9. Share information appropriately and lawfully with other organisations where the safety and wellbeing of children is at risk; and
10. Value the input of and communicate regularly with families and carers