

St Oliver Plunkett Primary School

Student Friendly Version Child Safe Policy



ST OLIVER PLUNKETT
PASCOE VALE



St Oliver Plunkett
Primary School

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Introduction

At St Oliver Plunkett Primary School our adults are responsible for our care, safety and wellbeing.

- We have a Child Safe Policy so that everyone is respected and feels safe.
- It is important that we are listened to and have an opportunity to share our thoughts and opinions.



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Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to make sure that all students feel comfortable with the people around them.

Our teachers care about us and also make sure that we feel safe when we are at school, excursions and on camps.



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St Oliver Plunkett
Primary School

Student Friendly Version
Child Safe Policy

Rights & Responsibilities

- We have the right to be safe
- We have the right to be respected
- Everyone has the right to learn



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St Oliver Plunkett
Primary School

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Child Safe Policy

What are Children's Rights?

Every child or young person has a right to:

- be safe and feel safe
- live in a safe and secure home, free from violence and abuse
- stay healthy and well
- go to a doctor, dentist or other professional for help when they need to
- have an education
- be allowed to be a child and be treated with respect
- have a say and be heard
- tell someone if they are unhappy
- feel proud and strong in their own culture
- be in contact with family, friends and people and places that matter to them
- have fun and do activities they enjoy
- develop life skills and grow up to be the best person they can



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PASCOE VALE



St Oliver Plunkett
Primary School

Student Friendly Version
Child Safe Policy

Commitment to Child Safety

Our school is committed to keeping our students safe from poor behaviour and abuse. Every student has the right to feel and be safe.



ST OLIVER PLUNKETT
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Primary School

Student Friendly Version
Child Safe Policy

Managing Risks

The school keeps us safe by-

- closing the gates
- teachers on yard duty who wear bright vests
- 'children only' toilets

Adults at our school must use adult toilets or the visitor toilets

- Before every event, excursion or camp our teachers think about how to avoid situations that might be dangerous or that may hurt us.



ST OLIVER PLUNKETT
PASCOE VALE



St Oliver Plunkett
Primary School

Student Friendly Version
Child Safe Policy

Code of Conduct

Our school makes sure there is a Child Safety Code of Conduct for all teachers, helpers, receptionists, Casual Relief Teachers, Parent Helpers, other volunteers and workers that describe how they should behave. You can see it on our website.

Just like we have the Our School Rules for students, the Code of Conduct are the rules for adults. All people who work with us in our school including parent helpers, sign this code.

Good/acceptable behaviour / Poor unacceptable behaviour.



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Primary School

Student Friendly Version
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Hiring staff to work with us

At St Oliver Plunkett primary school, our Principal Mrs Pieri makes sure that the right person gets the job to work with us and that they are committed to keeping children safe.

Mrs Pieri follows all of the correct protocols when hiring and managing all staff and volunteers.



ST OLIVER PLUNKETT
PASCOE VALE



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Primary School

Student Friendly Version
Child Safe Policy

Inclusion and empowerment for all students

St Oliver Plunkett Primary School work with students to

- ensure that they are empowered to understand their rights
- recognise what abuse is and encourage them to speak up when they feel uncomfortable or afraid
- lead with or without a leadership badge



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PASCOE VALE



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Primary School

Student Friendly Version
Child Safe Policy

Valuing Differences

- Our St Oliver Plunkett Primary School Vision Statement values everyone's individuality.
- We teach and inspire children with different abilities, backgrounds, beliefs and appearances.
- St Oliver Plunkett Primary School aims to make everyone feel comfortable no matter what their ability and we adjust things so that access is equitable for all.



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PASCOE VALE



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Primary School

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Visitors must sign in to the office

All adults in our school need to sign in to the office.

If you see an adult without a school lanyard / name badge you should let a teacher/ LSO know so they can take that person back to the office to sign in to our visitor's register.

This includes ;

- Parent helpers
- Visitors
- Maintenance people like electricians, plumbers and builders

Music teachers & Sports teachers

All workers at our school must show us their Working with Children Check (WWCC) before they can work onsite.



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Responding & Reporting- Everyone TELLS

Our teachers and all other adults will listen to our problems on the yard, in the classroom and if we are having an issue at home. If it is a big problem sometimes other people are called in to help us solve the problem. Our teachers will always tell us that it is their job to keep us safe.

The Principal and teachers at St Oliver Plunkett Primary School understand that it is important for all students to feel safe.



ST OLIVER PLUNKETT
PASCOE VALE



St Oliver Plunkett
Primary School

Student Friendly Version
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If you don't feel safe at school you can...

- let the teacher know you want to talk
- tell the teacher on yard duty
- tell your class teacher or Learning Support Officer (LSO)
- tell a buddy
- ask a responsible senior Year 6 student on the yard
- let the office know if there is an adult without a lanyard/ name badge



ST OLIVER PLUNKETT
PASCOE VALE



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Primary School

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CONT.

If you don't feel safe out of school you can...

- Talk to one or both of your parents/ carers
- Tell a trusted adult on your safety network
- Call the Kids Helpline
- Tell a staff member at school like your teacher
- Mrs Pieri always tells us that her door is always open and that we are safe to come and talk to her
- Mrs Cesarin our Deputy Principal is also a good person to talk to.

All our teachers will listen.



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PASCOE VALE



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Posters

Our school displays posters to help teach us all about child safety and how to ask for help. Our teachers encourage us to read the posters around the school and reassure us that we are safe.

PROTECT

Everyone has the right to be safe and be protected from abuse.

No one should behave in a way that makes you feel unsafe or afraid, including anyone in your family, anyone at school or anywhere else in the community.

Tell a teacher or any adult at your school if you feel unsafe.



It's everyone's responsibility.

Adults at school must listen and respond to concerns about child abuse.

If you suspect abuse of any child or young person, you have a responsibility to report it, even if you are not sure.

Further information & resources
www.education.vic.gov.au/protect



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ST OLIVER PLUNKETT
PASCOE VALE



We want children and young people to **FEEL SAFE AND BE SAFE**

Everyone who works here will do their best to make sure that you:



It is never OK for anyone to hurt you. **feel comfortable** **feel cared for** **feel safe** **are safe**

If you are not happy with something that is happening here or there is something you are worried about, we want you to tell someone you trust.

You can tell someone who works here.



You can also tell someone who looks out for you, like your mum or dad, a carer or a teacher.



We will try as hard as we can to fix any problem or worry that you have.

We will always treat what you tell us seriously, no matter how old you are.




We will always listen to you.

We want children and young people to **TELL US WHAT THEY THINK**

We are really interested to hear what you think about the programs and activities that we offer children and young people.



From time to time, we will ask you about what you think.



Tell us the things you like... ..and don't like.




At any time, it is OK for you to tell us if you are not happy with something that is happening to you or there is something you are worried about.

You can also bring a support person with you to talk with us.



With your ideas, we can make our programs better for others just like you.



We will always take what you tell us seriously, no matter how old you are.



If you are still worried or not happy, then you can talk to one of the people who work here.



We will try as hard as we can to fix any problem or worry that you have. **They will help you.**




My Body Safety Rules

My body is my body and it belongs to me!

I can say, 'No' if I don't want to kiss or hug someone.
I can give them a high five, shake their hand or blow them a kiss.
I am the boss of my body and what I say goes!



I have a Safety Network

These are five adults I trust. I can tell these people anything and they will believe me.
If I feel worried, scared or unsure, I can tell someone on my Safety Network how I am feeling and why I feel this way.



Early Warning Signs

If I feel frightened or unsafe
I may sweat a lot, get a sick tummy,
become shaky and my heart might
beat really fast.

These feelings are called my Early Warning Signs. If I feel this way about anything, I must tell an adult on my Safety Network straightaway.



Secrets

I should never keep secrets that make me feel bad or uncomfortable. If someone asks me to keep a secret that makes me feel bad or unsafe, I must tell an adult on my Safety Network straightaway!



Private Parts

My private parts are the parts of my body under my bathing suit. (My mouth is a private part too.) I always call my private parts by their correct names.
No one can touch my private parts.
No one can ask me to touch their private parts. And no one should show me pictures of private parts. If any of these things happen, I must tell a trusted adult on my Safety Network straightaway.



My Body My Safety Rules- [Video Link](#)



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