

Child Safe Code of Conduct

Box Hill Senior Secondary College is committed to the safety and wellbeing of young people. The school community recognises the importance of, and the responsibility for, ensuring our school is a safe, supportive and enriching environment. At Box Hill Senior Secondary College we respect and foster the dignity and self-esteem of young people and enable them to thrive in their learning and development.

This Code of Conduct aims to protect children and reduce any opportunities for child abuse or harm to occur. It also assists in understanding how to avoid or better manage risky behaviours and situations. It is intended to complement child protection legislation. Department policy, school policies and procedures and professional standards, codes or ethics as these apply to staff and other personnel.

The principal and school leaders of Box Hill Senior Secondary College will support implementation and monitoring of the Code of Conduct, and will plan, implement and monitor arrangements to provide inclusive, safe and orderly classrooms and other learning environments. The Principal and school leaders of Box Hill Senior Secondary College will also provide information and support to enable the Code of Conduct to operate effectively.

The Code of Conduct applies in all school situations including school camps and in the use of digital technology and social media.

All staff, contractors, volunteers and any other member of the school community involved in child related work are responsible for supporting the safety, participation, wellbeing and empowerment of young people by:

- adhering to Box Hill Senior Secondary College's child safe policy at all times / upholding Box Hill Senior Secondary College's statement of commitment to child safety at all times
- taking all reasonable steps to protect young people from abuse
- treating students and families in the school community with respect both within and outside the school environment as part of normal social and community activities
- agree to model our school values of Respect, Organisation, Responsibility and Personal Achievement
- listening and responding to the views and concerns of young people, particularly if they are telling you that they or another young person has been abused and/or are worried about their safety or the safety of another
- promoting the cultural safety, participation and empowerment of Indigenous young people
- promoting the safety, participation and empowerment of children with culturally and/or linguistically diverse backgrounds and by ensuring a zero tolerance approach to discrimination
- promoting the safety, participation and empowerment of children with a disability
- As a Respectful Relationships partner school, our staff will promote the safety, participation and empowerment of young people who identify as lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer or intersex.
- ensuring as far as practicable that staff are visible to others when working with young people one on one
- reporting any allegations of child abuse to the Child Safety Officer (ext. 118) or a member of the Principal team and ensure that allegations are reported to the police or child protection

- reporting any young person's safety concerns to the Child Safety Officer (ext. 118) or a member of the Principal team
- if an allegation of child abuse is made ensure that mandatory reporting protocols are followed.
- encouraging young people to 'have a say' in forums such as 'Student Voice'.

Staff, Contractors and volunteers must not:

- develop any 'special' relationships with young people that could be seen as favouritism (for example, the offering of gifts or special treatment)
- exhibit behaviours with young people which may be construed as unnecessarily physical
- put young people at risk of abuse
- use inappropriate language in the presence of young people
- engage in open discussions of a mature or adult nature in the presence of young people (for example, personal social activities) or engage in activities with students which may be interpreted as abusive and not justified by the educational, therapeutic, or service delivery context.
- ignore behaviours by other adults towards students when they appear to be over familiar or inappropriate
- discuss content of an intimate nature or use sexual innuendo with students, except where it occurs relevantly in the context of parental guidance, delivery of the education curriculum or therapeutic setting
- Use any personal communication channels/device such as a personal email account, mobile phone, social networking site except where that communication is directly related to the students schooling.
- express personal views on ethnicity, race or sexuality in the presence of young people
- discriminate against any young person, including because of culture, race, ethnicity or disability
- Ignore or disregard any suspected or disclosed abuse.
- In the school environment or at other school events, consume alcohol contrary to school policy (alcohol is not be consumed by a staff member while on excursion or camps). Alcohol may be consumed in moderation and in line with the School Policy at the Year 12 Formal, the Year 12 Valedictory Dinner and at the Debutante Ball.
- In the school environment or at other school events, consume illicit drugs at any time.

By observing these standards you acknowledge your responsibility to immediately report any breach of this to the Child Safety Officer (ext. 118) or a member of the Principal team at Box Hill Senior Secondary College.

I agree to adhere to this Code of Conduct:

Name:

Signature:

Date: