



Melbourne Archdiocese Catholic Schools Ltd (**MACS**) schools operate with the consent of the Catholic Archbishop of Melbourne and are owned, operated and governed by Melbourne Archdiocese Catholic Schools Ltd (MACS).

1. Purpose

This procedure outlines the strategies and actions in place to ensure that families, carers and other members of the school community are informed about relevant child safety and wellbeing matters and are involved in the promotion of child safety and wellbeing at the school.

2. Scope

These procedures apply in St Dominic' Primary School Melton

3. Principles

The following principles underpin our commitment to family engagement:

- Parents and Carers are given the opportunity to participate in decisions relating to child safety and wellbeing which affect their child
- Our school engages and openly communicates with Parents, Carers and other members of the school community about our child safe approach
- Relevant information relating to child safety and wellbeing about their child or children will be available to parents and carers
- Parents, Carers and other members of the school community can provide input into the development and review of the school's policies and practices relating to child safety and wellbeing
- Parents, Carers and other members of the school community have the right to be informed about the operations and governance of the school in relation to child safety and wellbeing.

4. School Commitment

Our school is committed to ensuring that all members of our school community are kept informed about relevant child safety and wellbeing matters and are involved in the promotion of child safety and wellbeing.

The Principal and school leaders at our school recognise their responsibilities to communicate and engage with families, carers and other members of the school community in relation to issues regarding child safety and wellbeing.

The Principal ensures the following actions and strategies are implemented to ensure we meet this commitment.

4.1. School leadership actions and strategies

- The school plans ways to engage families in child safety and wellbeing through its curriculum and learning and teaching programs.
- The school uses its communication channels—such as newsletters, the website, and digital platforms—to keep parents and carers updated about child safety and wellbeing strategies.

- The school publishes all child-safety-related policies, procedures and practices in easily accessible locations so that parents, carers and the wider community can review them at any time.
- The school actively engages with families to develop, review and improve its child safety and wellbeing practices and strategies.
- The school provides the community with clear and regular information about its child-safety-related operations and governance through newsletters and other communication methods.
- The school ensures parents, carers and students know how to raise concerns about child safety and wellbeing and provides clear pathways for reporting issues.
- The school proactively builds culturally safe and respectful relationships with Aboriginal families, recognising and valuing their vital role in supporting the identity, cultural safety and wellbeing of their children.

4.2. Actions and strategies for Staff

School Staff also have a responsibility to support MACS, the school's governing authority, and school leaders in communicating and engaging with Parents, Carers and other members of the school community regarding child safety and wellbeing.

Strategies and actions used to carry out this responsibility are listed below.

- The school maintains open lines of communication with families, carers and the wider community, especially in relation to child safety and wellbeing matters.
- The school ensures regular and respectful liaison with parents and carers whenever concerns or decisions arise that affect their child.
- The school provides opportunities, where appropriate, for families to contribute to discussions about programs, policies and issues related to child safety and wellbeing.
- The school ensures that all staff manage child safety and wellbeing matters in full accordance with the school's child-safety-related policies and procedures.
- The school provides clear and accessible information to families and community members on how to make complaints or raise concerns about child safety and wellbeing.

5. Definitions

Definitions of standard terms used in this document can be found in the [Glossary of Terms](#).

Carer

Refers to those with permanent care, foster care or kinship care arrangements.

Parent

A person who has parental responsibility for the child or young person. This may include a biological parent or another person who has been granted parental responsibility by a court order.

Parental responsibility

All the duties, powers, responsibilities and authority, which by law, parents have in relation to their children.

Principal

The role of the principal in a MACS school is to lead and manage the planning, delivery, evaluation and improvement of the education of all students.

Staff

Staff or staff member refers to the MACS board, board committee and working party members, MACS executives, principals, employees, contractors, consultants and volunteers in MACS schools and offices. The term includes those involved in religious ministry.

Volunteer

A person who performs work without remuneration or reward for MACS or a MACS school.

6. Related policies and documents

Related MACS policies and documents

Child Safety and Wellbeing Policy

Child Safety and Wellbeing Procedures

Protect – Identifying and Responding to Abuse – Reporting Obligations Policy

Reportable Conduct Policy

Policy information table

Approving authority	Director, Child Safety and Risk
Document owner	General Manager, Child Safety
Approval date	1 July 2025
Risk rating	Extreme
Review by	July 2027
Publication details	CEVN, school website
School document owner	
School review	