



Child Safety Code of Conduct

Purpose

Our Child Safety Code of Conduct sets out the expected behaviour of adults with young people in our school.

All Keilor Downs College staff, volunteers, contractors, service providers, School Council members and any other adult involved in child-connected work must follow the Child Safety Code of Conduct.

The Child Safety Code of Conduct applies to all physical and online environments used by students. It also applies during or outside of school hours and in other locations provided by the school for student use (for example, a school camp).

Acceptable behaviours

As Keilor Downs College staff, volunteers, contractors, and any other member of our school community involved in child-connected work, we are responsible for supporting and promoting the safety of children by:

- upholding our Keilor Downs College commitment to child safety at all times and adhering to our Child Safety Policy
- treating students and families in our school community with respect in our school environment, and also outside our school environment as part of normal social and community activities
- listening and responding to the views and concerns of students, particularly if they disclose that they or another student has been abused or are worried about their safety or the safety of another student
- promoting the cultural safety, participation and empowerment of Aboriginal students, students with culturally or linguistically diverse backgrounds, students with a disability, international students, students who are unable to live at home and LQBTIQ+ students
- ensuring, as far as practicable, that adults are not alone with a student but that any one-to-one interactions between an adult and a student are in an open space or in line of sight of another adult
- reporting any allegations of child abuse or other child safety concerns to a member of the Principal Team
- understanding and complying with all reporting and disclosure obligations (including mandatory reporting) in line with our child safety responding and reporting policy and procedures
- if child abuse is suspected, ensuring as quickly as possible that students are safe and protected from harm

Unacceptable behaviours

As Keilor Downs College staff, volunteers, contractors and member of our school community involved in child-connected work we must not:

- ignore or disregard any concerns, suspicions or disclosures of child abuse or harm
- develop a relationship with any student that could be seen as favouritism or amount to 'grooming' behaviour (for example, by offering gifts)
- display behaviours or engage with students in ways that are not justified by the educational or professional context
- ignore an adult's overly familiar or inappropriate behaviour towards a student
- discuss intimate topics or use sexualized language, except when needed to deliver the school curriculum or professional guidance
- treat a child or student unfavourably because of their disability, age, gender, race, culture, vulnerability, sexuality or ethnicity

- communicate directly with a student through personal or private contact channels (including by social media, email, instant messaging, texting) except where that communication is reasonable in the circumstances, related to schoolwork or extra-curricular activities or where there is a safety concern or other urgent matter
- photograph or video a child or student in a school environment except as agreed as part of the school curriculum, extracurricular program or other reasonable professional context or where required for duty of care purposes
- consume alcohol against school policy or take illicit drugs in the school environment or at school events where students are present
- have contact with any student outside of school hours except when needed to deliver the school curriculum or professional guidance and parental permission has been sought.

Breaches to the Child Safety Code of Conduct

All Keilor Downs College staff, volunteers, contractors and any other member of the school community involved in child-connected work who breach this Child Safety Code of Conduct may be subject to disciplinary procedures in accordance with their employment agreement or relevant industrial instrument, professional code or terms of engagement.

In instances where a reportable allegation has been made, the matter will be managed in accordance with the Department of Education and Training Reportable Conduct Scheme and may be subject to referral to Victoria Police.

All breaches and suspected breaches of the Keilor Downs College Child Safety Code of Conduct must be reported to the Principal or a member of the Principal Team.

If the breach or suspected breach relates to the Principal, contact another member of the Principal Team or the Brimbank-Melton Area office on 8397 0303.

Approval and review

Created date	August 14, 2024
Consultation	Consultation with School Council 18 th September 2024. Parents have been invited to have their say on this and other policies through Compass posts.
Endorsed by	Keilor Downs College Council
Endorsed on	18/09/2024
Next review date	August 2026



Help for non-English speakers

If you need help to understand this policy, please contact our office on 9365 8000.