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St Mary's Child Safe Policy – Student Version

Purpose

St Mary's school community is committed to the care, safety and wellbeing of all students at our school. The teachers and staff are committed to keeping the children at St Mary's safe at all times. This means the children at our school feel safe and not worried or scared that something bad will happen to them. All staff know what to do if a student says or indicates that they feel unsafe.



Commitment to Child Safety

All students and young people attending St Mary's have the right to feel safe. The school has a no tolerance approach to bullying or any kind of unsafe behaviour.

The most important job at St Mary's is to keep students safe and cared for. We use the St Mary's Way -

- Be Safe
- Be Respectful
- Be Responsible
- Be Your Best

to help ensure this happens in our classrooms and in our playground.

Risk Management

St. Mary's School knows that it is important to keep our children safe at school. The school looks for problems and things that may be unsafe and then if there are any issues, will fix them as soon as possible. We should always let someone know if we see a risk or know of a problem in our schools.

Hiring Staff and Staff Training

Before employing new staff and helpers at our school, Leadership checks the background of the person to see if they are suitable to work with children.

Some of the things the school does to make sure they are right for the position are –

- Check if they have been in trouble with the police
- Ask them to behave safely
- Make sure they follow our rules
- Check that they have a Working with Children card
- See what they did for their last job
- The Principal talks to the people that worked with them last to see if they're safe people.

Once they have settled into our schools they get more information and training about child safety.

Inclusion and Empowerment for all Students and Young People.

All the staff and teachers at our school help children understand that they have a right to feel safe and secure. Classroom activities like circle time, check ins after recess and lunch, working with the Wellbeing team and following The St Mary's Way, help us understand our rights and keep us safe.

There are displays and posters in the school that tell us what to do if we feel unsafe or have a problem.

Valuing Differences

St Mary's School values differences and does not put up with any kind of teasing because people are different.

The school helps and looks after **ALL** students;

- students with different backgrounds
- students that are different shapes and sizes
- students with different beliefs
- students that like different things
- students that have different abilities
- students that learn differently or have particular needs



The children at St Mary's know that they have a voice and can use it to express issues, concerns and ideas.