

## CHILD SAFE CODE OF CONDUCT

Toolangi Primary School is committed to safety and wellbeing of all children and young people. This will be the primary focus of our care and decision-making.

Toolangi Primary School has zero tolerance for child abuse.

Toolangi Primary School is committed to providing a child safe environment where children and young people are safe and feel safe, and their voices are heard about decisions that affect their lives. Particular attention will be paid to the cultural safety of Aboriginal children and children from culturally and/or linguistically diverse backgrounds, as well as the safety of children with a disability.

Every person involved in Toolangi Primary School has a responsibility to understand the important and specific role he/she plays individually and collectively to ensure that the wellbeing and safety of all children and young people is at the forefront of all they do and every decision they make.

**All staff, volunteers, contractors, visitors and School Council members are required to observe child safe principles and expectations for appropriate behaviour towards, and in the company of, children.**

**The school community of Toolangi Primary School is responsible for supporting the safety, participation, wellbeing and empowerment of children by:**

- Adhering to the Toolangi Primary School 'Child Safe' policy, whilst upholding the statement of commitment to child safety at all times.
- Taking all reasonable steps to protect children from abuse.
- Treating everyone with respect.
- Listening and responding to the views and concerns of children, particularly if they are telling you that they, or another child has been abused and/or are worried about their safety or the safety of another.
- Promoting the cultural safety and participation of children with culturally diverse backgrounds.
- Promoting the safety, participation and empowerment of children with a disability
- Ensuring as far as practicable that adults are not left alone with a child
- Reporting any allegations of child abuse to Principal/Leadership Team, and ensuring any allegation be reported to the police or child protection services
- Reporting any child safety concerns to Child Safety Officer/Principal.
- Ensuring, as quickly as possible, the safety of a child if an allegation of child abuse is made.
- Encouraging children to 'have a say' and participate in relevant organisational activities where practicable,

**Staff and volunteers must not:**

- Develop any 'special' relationships with children that could be seen as favouritism such as the repeated offering of gifts or special treatment for specific children.
- Exhibit behaviours with children which may be construed as unnecessary physical touching.
- Put children at risk of abuse.
- Do things of a personal nature that a child can do for themselves, such as toileting or changing clothes.
- Engage in open discussions of a mature or adult nature in the presence of children.
- Use inappropriate language in the presence of children.
- Hold children up to ridicule by shouting, continued negative comments or sarcasm.
- Express personal views on cultures, race or sexuality in the presence of children.
- Discriminate against any child, including because of culture, race, ethnicity, sexuality or disability.
- Ignore or disregard any suspected or disclosed child abuse.

By observing the Toolangi Primary Code of Conduct you acknowledge your responsibility to immediately report any breach of this code to Toolangi Primary School Child Safety Officer / Principal.

**If you believe a child is at immediate risk of abuse phone 000.**

**Agreement**

I agree to adhere to the Toolangi Primary School Code of Conduct:

Name:.....Date .....

Signature: .....

***This policy will be revised during the life of the Schools Strategic Plan; 2013 - 2017***