



# Parkdale Primary School

## Staff Code of Conduct

October 2016

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**All staff, volunteers and school community members of Parkdale Primary School are required to observe child safe principles and expectations for appropriate behaviour towards and in the company of children, as noted below.**

**All personnel of Parkdale Primary School are responsible for supporting the safety, participation, wellbeing and empowerment of children by:**

- adhering to **Parkdale Primary School's** child safety policy / 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, participation and empowerment of Aboriginal children
- promoting the cultural safety, participation and empowerment of children with culturally and/or linguistically diverse backgrounds, having a zero tolerance of discrimination
- 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 the Principal or Assistant Principal and ensure any allegation is reported to the police or child protection
- reporting any child safety concerns to the Principal or Assistant Principal
- if an allegation of child abuse is made, ensure, as quickly as possible, that the child(ren) are safe
- encouraging children to 'have a say' and participate in all relevant school activities where possible, especially on issues that are important to them.

### **Unacceptable Behaviours**

#### **Staff and volunteers must not:**

- ignore or disregard any suspected or disclosed child abuse
- develop any 'special' relationships with children that could be seen as favouritism (for example, the offering of gifts or special treatment for specific children)
- exhibit behaviours with children which may be construed as unnecessarily physical (for example inappropriate sitting on laps)
- put children at risk of abuse (for example, by locking doors)
- initiate unnecessary physical contact with children or 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
- express personal views on cultures, race or sexuality in the presence of children
- discriminate against any child, including because of age, gender, race, culture, vulnerability, sexuality, ethnicity or disability

- have contact with a child or their family outside of school without the Principal's knowledge and or/consent (for example, no babysitting). Accidental contact, such as seeing people in the street, is appropriate.
- have any online contact with a child (including by social media, email, instant messaging etc) or their family (unless necessary eg by providing families with e-newsletters or assisting students with their school work)
- use any personal communication channels/device such as a personal email account
- exchange personal contact details such as phone number, social networking sites or email addresses
- photograph or video a child in a school environment except in accordance with school policy or where required for duty of care purposes.
- work with children whilst under the influence of alcohol or illegal drugs
- consume alcohol or drugs at school in the presence of children.

By observing these standards you acknowledge your responsibility to immediately report any breach of this code to The Principal or Assistant Principal of Parkdale Primary School.

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

I agree to adhere to this Code of Conduct: