

St. Joseph's Primary School Child Friendly Child Safe Policy



Introduction

Our school is responsible for our care, safety and wellbeing.

We have a [Child Safety and Wellbeing Policy](#) so that everyone is respected and feels safe.

It is important that we are listened to and have an opportunity to share our thoughts and opinions.

Purpose:

The purpose of this policy is to make sure that all students feel comfortable with the people around them.

Our teachers care about us and also make sure that we feel safe when we are at school, on excursions and on camps.

Commitment to Child Safety:

Our school is committed to keeping our students safe from poor behaviour and abuse. Every student has the right to feel and be safe.

St. Joseph's is committed to ensuring a Child Safe and caring environment that promotes personal growth and positive self-esteem for all. We understand that teaching and learning become enjoyable and enriching when everyone knows what is expected. We understand that it is important to develop self-awareness and self-management amongst students and that this promotes well-being and a positive child safe culture in our school community.

We recognise that children are in their formative years and need help and guidance to make appropriate decisions. We ensure there is unconditional positive regard for every student.

We promote children restoring justice and have a proactive approach to solving issues when they arise. The school's positive behaviour approach is reflective of our commitment to promoting a child safe, respectful, secure and healthy environment in which all our students can prosper and flourish in.

Positive student management in St. Joseph's school seeks to protect personal and school community and child safety, restore relationships, encourage reconciliation, enhance well-being, foster responsibility, enable personal growth, and promote the common good. This is enhanced by a consistent approach to the implementation of our positive behaviour policy.

At no stage is corporal punishment exercised at our school. Equally, we do not tolerate any physical behaviour from and towards any member of our school community.



Growing Together in Knowledge, Faith and Friendship

KNOWLEDGE (Learning)

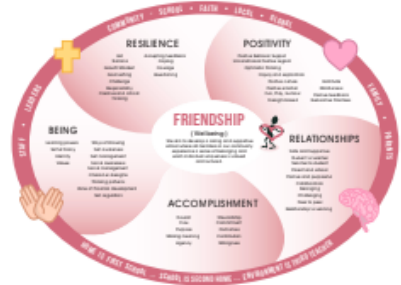
We aim to empower the school community with skills and attitudes to recognise, create and participate effectively in a changing world.

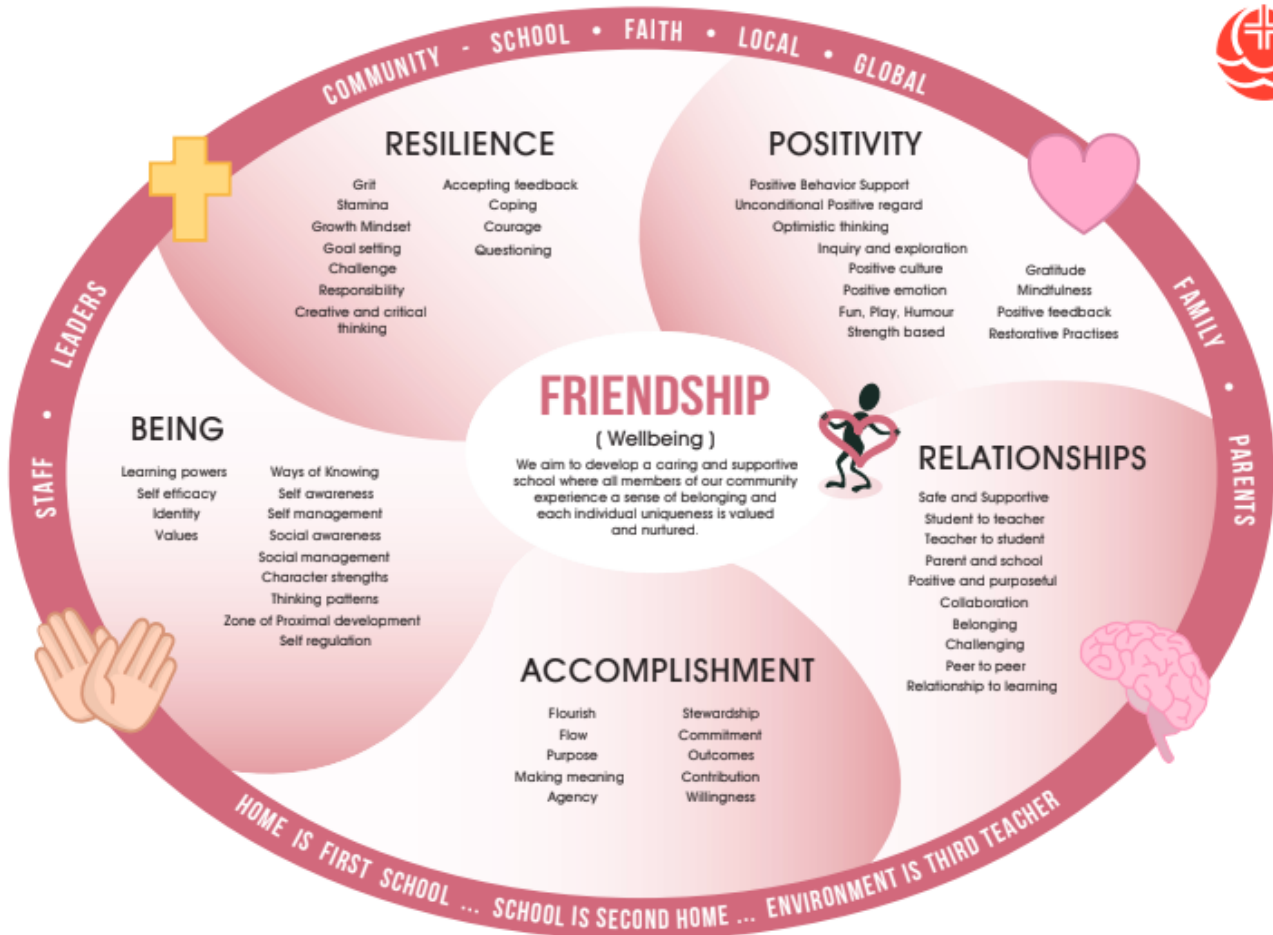
FAITH

We aim to foster an environment where the Catholic Faith is celebrated, communicated and lived, in a spirit of respect for the dignity of each person.

FRIENDSHIP (Wellbeing)

We aim to develop a caring and supportive school where all members of our community experience a sense of belonging and each individual uniqueness is valued and nurtured.





Rights & Responsibilities:

- We have the right to be safe
- We have the right to be respected
- Everyone has the right to learn

Managing Risks:

- The school keeps us safe by -
- Gates are closed during school hours
- Teachers on yard duty wear bright vests and have [yard duty processes](#) in place
- The school has designated toilets for students, staff and visitors
- Adults at our school must use adult toilets / visitor toilets
- Before every event, excursion or camp our teachers think about how to avoid situations that might be dangerous or that may hurt us.

Code of Conduct:

Our school makes sure there is a [Code of Conduct](#) for all teachers, helpers, receptionists, Casual Relief Teachers, parent helpers, other volunteers and workers that describes how they should behave.

Just like we have the St. Joseph's Expectations for students, the **Code of Conduct** is the expectation for adults.

Visitors must sign in to the office

All adults in our school need to sign in to the office.

If you see an adult without a school lanyard / name badge you should let a teacher/ LSO know so they can take that person back to the office to sign in as a visitor.

This includes;

Parent helpers

Visitors

Maintenance people like electricians, plumbers and builders

Music teachers & Sports teachers

Hiring Safe Staff to work with us :

At St. Joseph's, our Principal Mrs. E makes sure that the right person gets the job to work with us and that they are committed to keeping children safe.

Inclusion and Empowerment for all Students

St. Joseph's Primary School works with students to -

- ensure that they are empowered to understand their rights
- recognise what abuse is
- encourage them to speak up when they feel uncomfortable or afraid
- lead with or without the badge

Valuing Differences:

St. Joseph's values everyone's individuality.

We look after children with different abilities, backgrounds, beliefs and appearances.

St. Joseph's aims to make everyone feel comfortable.

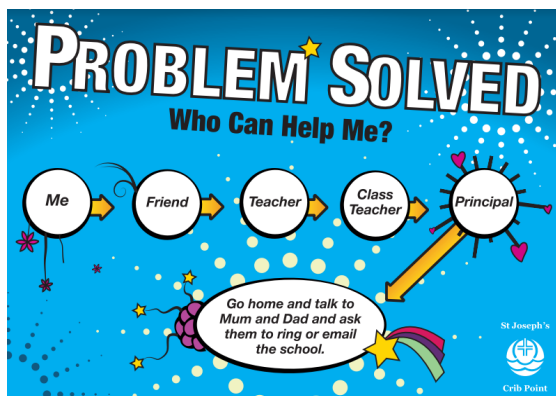
Responding & Reporting:

The Principal and teachers at St. Joseph's Primary School understand that it is important for all students to feel safe.

Our teachers as well as other adults will listen to our problems on the yard, in the classroom and if we are having an issue at home. If it is a big problem sometimes other people are called in to help us solve the problem

If you don't feel safe at school you can....

- let the teacher know you want to talk.
- ask a Senior Yr. 6 student on the yard
- tell the teacher on yard duty
- tell your class teacher or Learning Support Officer (LSO)
- tell a buddy
- let the office know there is an adult without a lanyard/ name badge at the school



We understand that at times problems will arise and therefore we have an explicit process for solving problems in a solution focussed manner to maintain respect, dignity and ultimately foster

positive wellbeing for all of our community. This commences with empowering students to solve problems and to take responsibility for themselves. We also recognise that students are in their formative years and will need assistance in solving problems and ensure our students understand there are many people who can assist if required.

We empower our students to solve any issues at school using the problem solved visual. We promote our students discussing these issues with their parents but ask that they first attempt to solve the issue at school using our Problem Solved visual.

At St. Joseph's we use restorative practices when reconciling any situation. The REACT model of restorative practices is used to guide conversations and to explicitly teach students how to manage social situations in a positive, peaceful and solution focused way.



Child Safety outside of School:

If you don't feel safe out of school you can

- Talk to one or both of your parents / carers
- Tell a trusted adult on your safety network
- Call the Kids Helpline
- Talk to our Principal or member of the leadership team
- Tell a staff member at school

Visible Promotion of Child Safety:

The Child Safety team put up posters around the school to teach us all about child safety and how to ask for help.

At St. Joseph's Child Safety is taught through the Positive Behaviour Approach and students will

Flourish through:

- being open to learning about self and how to regulate oneself
- being problem finders and solvers who embrace challenges that lead to new discoveries of self.
- providing and acting on feedback as part of their learning building capabilities and resilience.

Demonstrate agency by:

- taking responsibility for themselves, others and all of creation
- being reflective and critical thinkers knowing they are in the driving seat.
- seeing knowledge as connected and contestable.

Make a difference by:

- promoting the rights and development of all people
- respecting diversity in language, culture and expressions of faith
- respecting, caring for and sharing the resources of the earth
- being inspired by the Gospel and lead by the Holy Spirit to act for justice and strive for the common good.

Know themselves by:

- reflecting on their own story and how this shapes who they are and how they act
- continuously critiquing and re-imagining themselves in dialogue with Catholic beliefs and practices
- taking responsibility for and articulating their own beliefs and actions.

Adapted from Horizons of Hope Learning Schema 2017 and 2015 CEM Positive Behaviour policy

Know Do Be of Child Safety and Positive Behaviour

St Joseph's School aims to provide a clear vision and social expectations to guide actions and behaviours in our school. This includes the **Know** being our school vision, the **Do** being our social expectations and the **Be** - our actions. There is an expectation that this is our way of being at our school ensuring positive wellbeing and success for all of our community. This approach must be consistent and enacted by all of our community ensuring students have a clear understanding of the standards and expectations in regards to the regulation of self and actions towards others.



Roles and responsibilities:

Teachers will:

- Provide a Child Safe, supportive Christian environment for our students
- Treat students with respect and consideration
- Nurture a positive relationship with our students and parents
- Value and support fellow staff
- Support and endorse school policies in relation to Child Safety
- Support the school's Vision Statement
- Support parents in the implementation of strategies for children with special needs
- Not to use Corporal Punishment at any time

Students will:

- Show respect to themselves, one another, staff and any other member of the community

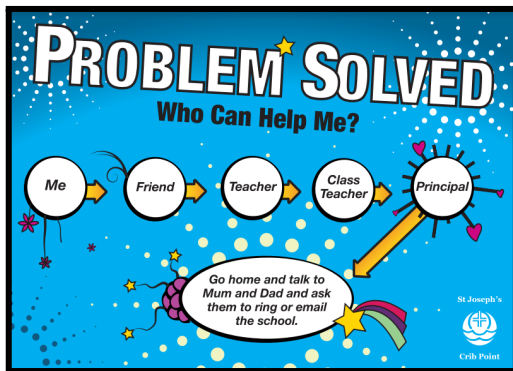
- Take responsibility for their own actions and be prepared to solve a problem and restore justice
- Actively engage in the learning process
- Support the school's Child Safety Policies,
- Support the school's social expectations, showing care and consideration for other people, belongings and school property

Parents will:

- Provide a Child Safe, Christian and supportive environment for their children
- Treat all children with respect and consideration
- Nurture a positive relationship with all children and teachers within the community
- Support and endorse school Child Safety policies
- Support the school's Vision Statement
- Support the staff in implementing behaviour management procedures

Resources and Strategies

We have a range of resources developed by St. Joseph's to ensure Child Safety is at the forefront of everyone



Our school Social and Emotional toolkit includes strategies to ensure we are explicitly teaching positive, solution focussed rational thinking patterns and skills to ensure positive regulation and self-management strategies. This is consistent across the whole school community and students are explicitly taught the individual strategies and how to enact these in real life situations.

The school's toolkit builds the four areas of self-awareness, self-management, social awareness and social management.

Additional resources and scaffolds for Child Safety

We provide a Child Safe environment for all of our students by establishing clear classroom structures with consistent expectations for teachers and students regarding participation, behaviour, performance and feedback. The following policies and strategies assist in ensuring this occurs

[St. Joseph's Positive Behaviour Policy](#)

[St. Joseph's Bullying Policy](#)

[St. Joseph's Learning Diversity and Adjustment policy](#)

[**Child Safety and Wellbeing Policy**](#)

[Child Safety Code of Conduct](#)

[Child Friendly Child Safe Slideshow student version](#)