Child Safe Program

Family and Community Involvement, Cultural Safety and Equity-Diversity

As a Christian school, our families and the school community have an important role in monitoring and promoting children's safety and wellbeing and helping children to raise any concerns within a Christian framework.

To support family and community engagement, at King's College we are committed to providing families and the community with accessible information about our school's child-safe policies and practices and involving them in our approach to child safety and wellbeing.

This section of the Child Safe Program sets out the strategies, policies, procedures and practices that the College uses to encourage the participation of and to partner with families and relevant communities in creating a child safe environment, to create a culturally safe environment for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students, and to uphold equity and respect diversity at the College:

- Family and Community Involvement (Child Safe)
- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Students (Child Safe)
- Students with Disability (Child Safe)
- Students from Culturally and Linguistically Diverse Backgrounds (Child Safe)
- LGBTIQ+ Inclusion Policy

These policies and procedures must be read in conjunction with:

- Participation and Empowerment of Students which details additional measures that the College takes to encourage, enable and empower students in particular, as members of the

College community with additional participation needs, to participate in decisions that affect them
- Child Safe Complaints Management
- Regular Reviews and Continuous Improvement which details additional measures that the College takes to enable students, families and other members of the College community to participate in reviews of and improvements to our child safety and wellbeing policies and procedures.

Source of Obligation

Standard 4 of the Victorian Child Safe Standards is that families and communities are informed and involved in promoting child safety and wellbeing. To implement this Standard, Clause 8 of Ministerial Order 1359 requires King's College Board to develop a policy, statement or other documentation that details the strategies and actions the College will take to ensure that:

- families participate in decisions relating to child safety and wellbeing affecting their child
- the College engages and openly communicates with families and the College community about its child safe approach, and relevant information is accessible
- families and the College community have a say in the development and review of the College's policies and practices relating to child safety and wellbeing.
- families, carers and the College community are informed about the College's operations and governance related to child safety and wellbeing.

Standards 1 and 5 of the Victorian Child Safe Standards require the College to establish a culturally safe environment for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children and young people, and to uphold equity and respect diversity in policy and practice. To meet these Standards, Ministerial Order 1359 requires King's College Board to develop and endorse policies or statements that detail the strategies and actions that the College will take to ensure that:

- a child's or student's ability to express their culture and enjoy their cultural rights is encouraged and actively supported
- strategies are embedded within the College which equip school staff, students, Volunteers and the College community to acknowledge and appreciate the strengths of Aboriginal culture and understand its importance to the wellbeing and safety of Aboriginal children and students
- measures are adopted by the College to identify, confront and not tolerate racism within the College environment and that any instances of racism are addressed with appropriate consequences

- the College actively supports and facilitates participation and inclusion by Aboriginal children and students and their families
- all of the College's policies, procedures, systems and processes, taken together, create a culturally safe and inclusive environment and meet the needs of Aboriginal children and students and their families
- the College, including Staff and Volunteers, understands children and young people's diverse circumstances, and provides support and responds to vulnerable children and students
- children, students, Staff, Volunteers and the College community have access to information, support and complaints processes in ways that are culturally safe, accessible and easy to understand.
- the College pays particular attention to the needs of students with disability, students from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds, students who are unable to live at home, and lesbian, gay, bisexual, trans and gender diverse, intersex and queer (LGBTQI+) students
- the College pays particular attention to the needs of Aboriginal students and provides and promotes a culturally safe environment for them.

Approvals and Reviews of the Participation and Empowerment of Students Strategies, Policies and Procedures

As required by Ministerial Order 1359, King's College Board or its delegatehas reviewed all of the strategies, policies and procedures in this section of the Child Safe Program.

They are regularly reviewed in accordance with the schedule set out in the Regular Reviews and Continuous Improvement section of the Child Safe Program.

King's College Board or its delegateapproves all changes to these policies and procedures that result from a review.

The Policies & Compliance Shared Google Drive sets out the policy administration information, including a record of the initial approval of the relevant policy/ procedure in this section, the date of the next scheduled review and the dates of all other reviews and approvals.