



**ST DOMINIC'S
PRIORY COLLEGE**

EDUCATING GIRLS, INSPIRING CONFIDENCE

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SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN & YOUNG PEOPLE

SUITE OF POLICIES AND PRACTICES

LAST REVIEW DATE	NEXT REVIEW DATE
June 2024	June 2027
RESPONSIBLE OFFICER	Helen Steele <i>College Principal</i>

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We acknowledge St Dominic's Priory College is situated on Kurna Land and we pay our respects to Elders past, present and future.



INTRODUCTION

St Dominic's Priory College has zero tolerance to children and young people coming to harm of any kind. At St Dominic's Priory College, we take the safeguarding of our children and young people very seriously. To support our work in this area, the College has produced a number of documents to provide important guidelines and policy to reduce risk and maintain a child safe culture. We welcome young people from diverse backgrounds and act in their best interests.

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SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN & YOUNG PEOPLE POLICY

LAST REVIEW DATE	NEXT REVIEW DATE
June 2024	June 2027
RESPONSIBLE OFFICER	College Principal



PREFACE

COMMITMENT TO SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE

St Dominic's Priory College ('the College') has zero tolerance to children and young people coming to harm of any kind. The safeguarding of our children and young people is intrinsic to our Dominican identity, and College Vision Statement:

Inspired by the Gospel of Jesus Christ, we are a girls' College committed to truth and compassion. In the spirit of St Dominic, we contemplate the possibilities and honour the sacred dignity of each person through word and action. We aspire to provide an innovative, rigorous and inclusive education that leads girls and young women to achieve excellence in their studies and confidence in their future.

As Dominicans, the College is actively invested in fostering a community of safeguarding that recognises and upholds the dignity and rights of all children and young people. In alignment with the *Child Safety (Prohibited Persons) Act 2016*, the *Children & Young People (Safety) Act 2017*, the National Principles for Child Safe Organisations, and the National Catholic Safeguarding Standards, the College is further committed to creating and maintaining a child safe environment, wherein:

- Every person within the College who interacts with children and young people commits to establishing safe and supportive relationships.
- Diversity within our community is respected, and each child and young person is valued and treated equitably.
- Children and young people are well-informed of their right to feel safe and know who to talk with if they have concerns or are feeling unsafe.
- Activities with children are proactively planned, organised and reviewed; with potential risks duly considered, reduced and eliminated where possible.
- Our Community of Staff and Volunteers actively seek to become, and remain informed, of the causes and signs of harm or risks of harm to children and young people, and the strategies to prevent, safeguard against, or respond effectively.

Further information about the College's principles and objectives can be found within the [2021 – 2025 Strategic Plan](#).

To read the College's **Safeguarding Commitment Statement** in full, and access *College Policies, Procedures* and other resources, please [click here](#).

GOVERNANCE

Dominican Education Australia (DEA) is the governing authority of St Dominic's Priory College, an independent Catholic School. A Board of Directors, established in 1987, governs the College which is incorporated under the *Corporations Act 2001 (Cwlth)*. The Trustees of DEA and the College Board of Directors assures our Catholicity, fidelity to the Dominican charism, formation of Board members, excellence in teaching and learning and financial stability.

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SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE POLICY

1. INTRODUCTION

The Safeguarding Children and Young People Policy applies to all staff members and volunteers working within St Dominic's Priory College and exists to uphold the principles set out in relevant legislative and organisational obligations. St Dominic's Priory College has zero tolerance to children and young people coming to harm of any kind. The rationale for this policy is the belief that a safe, supportive, inclusive and positive environment, where each child and young person is valued and respected equitably, underpins a student's capacity for learning. This maximises potential for personal and social development, ultimately enhancing wellbeing and life opportunities. We acknowledge that being safe and supported at school is essential for student wellbeing and effective learning.

St Dominic's Priory College is committed to providing safe, supportive and respectful teaching and learning communities that promote student rights, safety and wellbeing, including compliance with child protection obligations mandated by legislation including, but not limited to, the *Child Safety (Prohibited Persons) Act 2016*, *Children & Young People (Safety) Act 2017*, the National Principles for Child Safe Organisations, the United Conventions on the Rights of the Child, and Church teachings.

We recognise that students' spiritual, psychological and physical wellbeing is paramount and that every student has a fundamental right to a safe school environment and protection from harm and the risk of harm.

This policy is supported by the following;

- 1.1 Safeguarding Children and Young People Code of Conduct
- 1.2 Safeguarding Children and Young People Commitment Statement
- 1.3 Safeguarding Children and Young People Committee Terms of Reference

2. PURPOSE

College staff, volunteers and Catholic Church personnel are required to be committed to creating and maintaining a child safe institution that fosters positive and safe cultures, adopts strategies and acts to prevent harm to children and young people.

The purpose of this policy is to ensure that St Dominic's Priory College adheres to all Safeguarding Children and Young People policies and procedures. This supports an organisational culture to both:

- 2.1 Safeguard against the risk of harm; and
- 2.2 Respond effectively if harm is suspected or confirmed.

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3. STATEMENT

St Dominic's Priory College supports students to feel and be safe through providing the care and protection necessary for their wellbeing. In alignment with the National Catholic Safeguarding Standards, the College will demonstrate:

- 3.1 A commitment to excellence in leadership, governance and culture
- 3.2 That all children and young people are valued, safe and informed
- 3.3 A strong partnership with families and carers
- 3.4 That equity is promoted, and diversity is respected
- 3.5 A robust management of all human resource matters
- 3.6 Effective complaints management
- 3.7 Ongoing education and training
- 3.8 Safe physical and online environments
- 3.9 Regular reflections and reviews for improvement
- 3.10 All policies and procedures support child safety

4. PRINCIPLES

The principles behind this policy are as follows. As a College:

- 4.1 We take a preventative, proactive and participatory approach to child safety;
- 4.2 We implement child safety policies and procedures which support ongoing assessment of risk;
- 4.3 We value and empower children to participate in decisions which affect their lives and their rights;
- 4.4 We foster a culture of openness that supports all persons to safely disclose risks of harm to children;
- 4.5 We respect diversity in cultures and child rearing practices while keeping child safety paramount;
- 4.6 We provide guidance on appropriate conduct and behaviour towards children;
- 4.7 We engage only the most suitable people to work with children and have high quality staff and volunteer supervision and professional development;
- 4.8 We ensure children know who to talk with if they are worried or are feeling unsafe, and that they are comfortable and encouraged to raise such issues;
- 4.9 We report suspected harm or risk of harm promptly to the appropriate authorities;
- 4.10 We share information appropriately and lawfully with other organisations where the safety and wellbeing of children is at risk; and
- 4.11 We value the input of and communicate regularly with families and guardians.

5. DEFINITIONS

The work of safeguarding children requires a shared understanding of definitions, terms and behaviours, that may impact a young person's context.

The following are some of these.

5.1 CHILD AND YOUNG PERSON

A person under the age of 18 or any young person enrolled as a student at St Dominic's Priory College.

5.2 CHILD SAFE INSTITUTION

An institution that consciously and systematically creates conditions that reduce the likelihood of harm to children, creates conditions that is conducive to identifying and reporting harm, and responds appropriately to disclosures, allegations or suspicions of harm.

5.3 GROOMING

The use of a variety of manipulative and controlling techniques; with a vulnerable subject; in a range of inter-personal and social settings; in order to establish trust or normalise sexually harmful behaviour; with the overall aim of facilitating exploitation and/or prohibiting exposure (McAlinden, 2012, p.11).

5.4 HARM

Any detrimental effect of a significant nature on the student's physical, psychological or emotional wellbeing. It is immaterial how the harm is caused, but it may be caused by physical or psychological harm, or sexual abuse/exploitation. It is also recognised that harm can be caused by a single incident of abuse or be a cumulative impact of multiple incidents.

5.5 ONLINE

'Online' refers to all matters of digital citizenship and technology use.

5.6 STAFF MEMBER

Any person who is employed by St Dominic's Priory College Limited on a casual, fixed term or continuing basis, and has, as a requirement of their appointment, provided evidence of, or obtained, a Working With Children Check (WWCC) and an approved accreditation in Responding to Risks of Harm, Abuse & Neglect – Education and Care (RRHAN-EC). All staff members at the College are Mandated Reporters, and have a legal obligation to report instances of harm, or risk of harm to the Child Abuse Report Line (CARL) on 13 14 75, or SA Police on 000 if a child or young person is at immediate risk.

5.7 SEXUAL ABUSE

Sexual abuse can be physical, verbal or emotional behaviour which involves the student in a sexual activity or sexually exploits the student in some way. This abuse can be in person or occur indirectly (online). Sexual Abuse (includes but is not limited to) sexual behaviour involving the student and another person, who is not a student, in the following circumstances:

- 5.7a The other person bribes, coerces, exploits, threatens or is violent toward the student;

5.7b The student has less power;

5.7c There is significant disparity between the student and the other person in intellectual capacity or maturity.

5.8 STUDENT

Refers to any person enrolled at St Dominic's Priory College regardless of that person's age.

NOTE: Legislation defines student as being under the age of 18 years of age. An organisational decision has been made to apply all reporting obligations to any student irrespective of age.

5.9 VOLUNTEER

Refers to a person who is engaged or present at the College to undertake work, but not for financial reward.

6. RESOURCES

- Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse – Final Report Volume 6: Making Institutions Child Safe 2017
- Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse – Final Report Volume 13: Schools 2017
- The Australian Student Wellbeing Framework (www.safeschoolshub.edu.au)
- United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child
- National Principles for Child Safe Organisations
- *Child Safety (Prohibited Persons) Act 2016*
- *Children and Young People (Safety) Act 2017*
- *Education (Accreditation of Non-State Schools) Act 2017*
- Education (Accreditation of Non-State Schools) Regulation 2017
- *Education (General Provisions) Act 2006*
- Education (General Provisions) Regulation 2017
- *Education (Queensland College of Teachers) Act 2005*
- *Working with Children (Risk Management and Screening) Act 2000*
- *Evidence Act 1977*
- Disability Standards for Education (2005)
- *Child Protection Act 1999*

RELATED DOCUMENTS

- Safeguarding Children and Young People Code of Conduct
- Safeguarding Children and Young People Commitment Statement
- Safeguarding Children and Young People Terms of Reference
- Safeguarding Children and Young People Agreement
- St Dominic's Priory College Staff Code of Conduct (Code of Conduct for Staff Employed in Catholic Education South Australia)
- Professional Boundaries Policy for Staff Employed at St Dominic's Priory College
- Safeguarding Children and Adults at Risk (Edition 2 | 2022)

10. REVISION RECORD

Document Title	Safeguarding Children & Young People Code of Conduct					
Document Type	Policy					
Document Date	March 2021					
Process Owner	College Principal					
Contact	Dr. Helen Steele (hsteele@stdominic.sa.edu.au)					
Approval Authority	College Leadership					
Review Date	2023; 2024; 2027					
Distribution	Website	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	SEQTA	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Sharepoint	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
History	Edition	Date	Description of change			
	1.0	2021	Drafted			
	2.0	2023	Reviewed			
	3.0	2024	Reviewed			



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SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN & YOUNG PEOPLE

CODE OF CONDUCT

LAST REVIEW DATE	NEXT REVIEW DATE
June 2024	June 2027
RESPONSIBLE OFFICER	College Principal



PREFACE

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SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE CODE OF CONDUCT

1. PURPOSE

The purpose of St Dominic's Priory College Safeguarding Children and Young People Code of Conduct is to clearly articulate the College's attitude towards all matters relating to behaviours when working with children and young people. The Code of Conduct identifies behaviours that are acceptable and those that are unacceptable. It provides a high-level statement of professional boundaries, ethical behaviours, along with acceptable and unacceptable relationships. This is because St Dominic's Priory College has zero tolerance to children and young people coming to harm of any kind.

When individuals are clear about behavioural expectations, they are much more likely to act appropriately with each other and with children and young people. When everyone is educated about the Code of Conduct and the reasons it is so important to uphold, the College environment continues to be transparent and people are accountable for their behaviours. Above all, this Code of Conduct, helps to protect children and young people from harm.

This Code of Conduct is made available to all Staff, Volunteers, Families and Students via our College website.

The Safeguarding Children and Young People Code of Conduct considers the needs of all children and young people, paying particular attention to:

- 1.1 Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people;
- 1.2 Individuals who are living with disability, are suffering from an illness, or who are 'at risk';
- 1.3 Individuals from culturally and linguistically diverse (CALD) backgrounds;
- 1.4 Children in out of home care, or those who are homeless, and;
- 1.5 Children and young people of diverse sexuality.

The Safeguarding Children and Young People Code of Conduct applies to:

- 1.6 all staff members, including temporary or casual staff
- 1.7 volunteers
- 1.8 students
- 1.9 parents and guardians
- 1.10 third Party Contractors
- 1.11 external Education Providers
- 1.12 the College Board
- 1.13 student teachers on placement at the College
- 1.14 visitors
- 1.15 other such adults who may have reason to be at the College.

For more detailed guidance staff should refer to the legislative documents which are a condition of employment in Catholic Schools. These are:

- 1.16 St Dominic's Priory College Staff Code of Conduct
(Code of Conduct for Staff Employed in Catholic Education South Australia)
- 1.17 Protective Practices for Staff in their interactions with Children and Young People
Guidelines for Staff Working of Volunteering in Education or Care Setting

2. ACCEPTABLE BEHAVIOURS: WHAT MUST WE DO?

2.1 CULTURE

- 2.1a Behave as a positive role model
- 2.1b Use positive and affirming language toward students
- 2.1c Encourage students to 'have a voice' and participate and then listen to them with respect
- 2.1d Treat all students and adults in the community with respect
- 2.1e Promote the cultural safety, participation and empowerment of all students, no matter their ability, language, cultural background, or sexuality
- 2.1f Respect cultural, religious and political differences

2.2 SAFETY

- 2.2a Promote the safety, welfare and wellbeing of all College community members, namely children, young people and their families
- 2.2b Help provide an open, safe and supportive environment for all students to interact, and socialise
- 2.2c Be vigilant and proactive with regard to student safety and child protection matters
- 2.2d Provide age appropriate supervision for students, complying with Duty of Care obligations
- 2.2e Comply with guidelines and policies published by the College with respect to child protection

2.3 INTERVENTION

- 2.3a Intervene when students are engaging in inappropriate and unsafe behaviour towards others or acting in a humiliating or vilifying way
- 2.3b Report any breaches of this Code of Conduct to the Principal, Deputy Principal or delegate
- 2.3c Ensure that the College's legal obligations to report allegations externally are met
- 2.3d Where an allegation of harm or risk of harm to a child or young person is made, ensure as quickly as possible that the student involved is safe and that all Mandatory Notification requirements are met. All staff members at the College are Mandated Reporters, and have a legal obligation to report to the Child Abuse Report Line (CARL) on 13 14 75, or SA Police on 000 if a child or young person is at immediate risk.
- 2.3e Call the Police if there are immediate concerns for a student's safety
- 2.3f Respect the privacy of students and their families. Only disclose information to Members of the College Leadership Team, South Australian Police (SAPOL), or other governing authorities
- 2.3g Handle all personal information in accordance with the College's Privacy Policy

3. UNACCEPTABLE BEHAVIOURS: WHAT MUST WE NOT DO?

3.1 CULTURE

- 3.1a Use prejudice, oppressive behaviour or inappropriate language with students
- 3.1b Express personal views on cultures, race or sexuality or discriminate against any student based on culture, race, sexuality, ethnicity or disability

3.2 SAFETY

- 3.2a Engage in any form of inappropriate behaviour towards students or expose students to such behaviour
- 3.2b Engage in open discussions of an concerning adult nature in the presence of students
- 3.2c Meet alone with a student in a place that is out of sight/hearing of other staff or students
- 3.2d Engage in any form of sexual conduct with a student, including making sexually suggestive comments and sharing sexually suggestive material
- 3.2e Engage in inappropriate or unnecessary physical conduct or behaviours including doing things of a personal nature that a student can do for themselves, such as toileting or changing clothes
- 3.2f Engage in any form of physical violence towards a student including inappropriately rough physical play
- 3.2g Use physical means or corporal punishment to discipline or control a student
- 3.2h Engage in any form of behaviour that has the potential to cause a student serious emotional or psychological harm
- 3.2i Develop 'special' relationships with students that could be seen as favouritism (for example, the offering of gifts or special treatment for specific students)
- 3.2j Engage in undisclosed private meetings with a student
- 3.2k Engage in inappropriate personal communications with a student through any medium, including any online contact or interactions with a student
- 3.2l Take or publish (including online) photos, movies or recordings of a student without student, parental/guardian and College consent
- 3.2m Post online any information about a student that may identify them such as their: full name; age; e-mail address; telephone number; residence; school; or details of a club or group they may attend
- 3.2n Make contact through social media or other communication platforms with current students from Schools or Colleges where you have previously, or are currently, employed or have volunteered.
- 3.2o Ignore or disregard any suspected or disclosed instances of harm, or risks of harm, to a child or young person.
- 3.2p Work with students while under the influence of alcohol or illegal drugs.

4. ENDORSEMENT

The St Dominic's Priory College Board has endorsed and approved this Safeguarding Children and Young People Code of Conduct, as appropriate for this school's context.

This Safeguarding Children and Young People Code of Conduct has outlined appropriate standards of behaviour for all adults towards young people. The Code serves to protect students, reduce any opportunities for harm or risks of harm to occur, and promote child safety in the College environment. It provides guidance on how to best support students and how to avoid or better manage difficult situations.

Where a community member breaches this Code, St Dominic's Priory College will follow process and in the case of this involving a Staff Member, this may result in disciplinary action or dismissal.

The College will review the Safeguarding Children and Young People Code of Conduct bi-annually.

RELATED DOCUMENTS

- Safeguarding Children and Young People Policy
- Safeguarding Children and Young People Commitment Statement
- Safeguarding Children and Young People Terms of Reference
- Safeguarding Children and Young People Agreement
- St Dominic's Priory College Staff Code of Conduct

5. REVISION RECORD

Document Title	Safeguarding Children & Young People Code of Conduct					
Document Type	Policy					
Document Date	March 2021					
Process Owner	College Principal					
Contact	Dr. Helen Steele (hsteele@stdominic.sa.edu.au)					
Approval Authority	College Leadership					
Review Date	2023; 2024; 2027					
Distribution	Website	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	SEQTA	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Sharepoint	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
History	Edition	Date	Description of change			
	1.0	2021	Drafted			
	2.0	2023	Reviewed			
	3.0	2024	Review			



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SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN & YOUNG PEOPLE COMMITMENT STATEMENT

LAST REVIEW DATE	NEXT REVIEW DATE
June 2024	June 2024
RESPONSIBLE OFFICER	College Principal



PREFACE

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SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE COMMITMENT STATEMENT

WE ARE COMMITTED TO A SAFE AND NURTURING CULTURE FOR ALL CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE IN OUR COMMUNITY.

1. St Dominic's Priory College is actively committed to fostering communities of safeguarding that recognise and uphold the dignity and rights of all children and young people.
2. Every person within St Dominic's Priory College who comes into contact, or works with children and young people seeks to uphold their dignity and commits to establishing safe and supportive relationships.

WE WANT OUR CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE TO BE SAFE, HAPPY AND EMPOWERED.

3. The College encourages open communication whereby families and communities are informed of relevant issues and participate in decisions about the safety of children. It is particularly important to look for avenues to empower children to have a say and be listened to.
4. We plan, organise and review all activities with children proactively, considering potential risks. The College strives to ensure risks are reduced, and eliminated where possible.
5. The College actively seeks to become and remain informed of the causes and signs of harm or risks of harm, to children and young people.

WE ARE COMMITTED TO PREVENTING HARM TO CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE, AND IDENTIFYING RISKS EARLY.

6. St Dominic's Priory College has documented policies and procedures to prevent risks to children and young people, and build a strong culture of safeguarding. All religious, lay persons, staff, and volunteers and visitors are expected to follow these policies and procedures and contribute to the culture of care and protection of all children and young people.
7. We regularly undertake internal and external auditing of our safeguarding policies and practises. This is to ensure our policies and procedures place the needs and safety of children and young people at the centre of our thinking and actions.
8. We listen to the voices of children and young people, as we constantly strive to remain vigilant and make improvements to our practices.

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WE HAVE ZERO TOLERANCE OF CHILD ABUSE

9. Anyone who brings forward suspicion, concerns, knowledge or allegation of current or past harm of a child or young person, to a member of the St Dominic's Priory College Leadership Team, can be assured it will be responded to sensitively, respectfully, actively and in a timely manner. This is in line with our lawful obligations and in line with policies and procedures developed at a National, State, System, Governing Authority and school level.
10. When we receive information about concerns or witness any matter relating to harm of a child or young person, we respond appropriately and report any such concerns to the appropriate authority. This will include contacting the police, where there may be immediate risk of harm to any children, young people or person.

RELATED DOCUMENTS

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- Safeguarding Children and Young People Terms of Reference
- Safeguarding Children and Young People Agreement
- St Dominic's Priory College Staff Code of Conduct
(Code of Conduct for Staff Employed in Catholic Education South Australia)

For more information or to raise a concern, please contact:

Safeguarding Coordinator

Muriel Noujaim (Deputy Principal)

mnoujaim@stdominics.sa.edu.au

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REVISION RECORD

Document Title	Safeguarding Children & Young People Commitment Statement		
Document Type	Policy		
Document Date	March 2021		
Process Owner	College Principal		
Contact	Dr. Helen Steele (hsteele@stdominic.sa.edu.au)		
Approval Authority	College Leadership		
Review Date	2023; 2024; 2027		
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History	Edition	Date	Description of change
	1.0	2021	Drafted
	2.0	2023	Reviewed
	3.0	2024	Reviewed



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SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN & YOUNG PEOPLE COMMITTEE

TERMS OF REFERENCE

LAST REVIEW DATE	NEXT REVIEW DATE
January 2024	January 2027
RESPONSIBLE OFFICER	College Principal



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- Our Community of Staff and Volunteers actively seek to become, and remain informed, of the causes and signs of harm or risks of harm to children and young people, and the strategies to prevent, safeguard against, or respond effectively.

Further information about the College's principles and objectives can be found within the [2021 – 2025 Strategic Plan](#).

To read the College's **Safeguarding Commitment Statement** in full, and access *College Policies, Procedures* and other resources, please [click here](#).

GOVERNANCE

Dominican Education Australia (DEA) is the governing authority of St Dominic's Priory College, an independent Catholic School. A Board of Directors, established in 1987, governs the College which is incorporated under the *Corporations Act 2001 (Cwlth)*. The Trustees of DEA and the College Board of Directors assures our Catholicity, fidelity to the Dominican charism, formation of Board members, excellence in teaching and learning and financial stability.

For more information about DEA visit: <https://dominicaneducationaustralia.com/>



SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE COMMITTEE TERMS OF REFERENCE

1. AUTHORITY

- 1.1 The Safeguarding Committee is a formally constituted Committee within St Dominic's Priory College reporting to the Principal and the College Board.
- 1.2 The Safeguarding Committee has delegated authority to:
 - 1.2a Oversee and monitor policies, procedures and practices which safeguard children attending St Dominic's Priory College.
 - 1.2b Ensure safeguarding functions are embedded in the governance structures and practices of St Dominic's Priory College.

2. MEMBERSHIP

The Committee has a minimum membership of *four* comprising:

- 2.1 The Principal who acts as the Chairperson
- 2.2 Other members may include:
 - 2.2a Deputy Principal/ Safeguarding Coordinator
 - 2.2b Director of the Junior School
 - 2.2c Work, Health & Safety Coordinator
 - 2.2d A Student Counsellor
- 2.3 Other members may include:
 - 2.3a Members of Staff
 - 2.3b Parent Representatives
 - 2.3a Student Representatives

3. PURPOSE

The purpose of the Safeguarding Committee is to:

- 3.1 Oversees the effective ongoing implementation of child safeguarding practices, including the Child Safeguarding Policy and related procedures and practices.
- 3.2 Review annual self-audits of compliance, in line with the National Catholic Safeguarding Standards and Department of Human Services (DHS).
- 3.3 Monitors progress and reviews the Safeguarding Implementation Plan (SIP) for St Dominic's Priory College.
- 3.4 Provides support and advice in relation to all matters of child safeguarding.

4. RESPONSIBILITIES

The onus of the Committee is to support St Dominic's Priory College to fulfil their responsibilities in relation to safeguarding by:

- 4.1 Identifying and contributing to the development and ongoing review of the College's
 - 4.1a Child Safeguarding Policy
 - 4.1b Commitment Statement
 - 4.1c Code of Conduct
 - 4.1d Safeguarding Implementation Plan (SIP)
- 4.2 Supporting Dominican Education Australia and St Dominic's Priory College to implement all aspects of the National Catholic Safeguarding Standards.
- 4.3 Monitoring local and national implementation of safeguarding legislation and policy to ensure practice is appropriate, effective and consistently applied across St Dominic's Priory College.
- 4.4 Ensuring children are given opportunities to understand and contribute appropriately to the St Dominic's Priory College's safeguarding practices.
- 4.5 Supporting Dominican Education Australia and St Dominic's Priory College to engage and openly communicate with families, guardians and communities about St Dominic's Priory College's child safeguarding approach.

5. TERMS OF OFFICE

- 5.1 Invited committee members are appointed for a maximum term of three years.
- 5.2 Gaps in knowledge, skills or background of the Committee are reviewed annually and the Chair makes recommendations to the Board for any necessary changes or additions to membership.
- 5.3 Members are approved by the College Board.

6. FREQUENCY OF MEETINGS

The Committee meets four times per year (with additional meetings organised on a needs basis).

7. QUORUMS

Four members, including the Chair, is considered a quorum for meetings of the Committee.

8. DECISION MAKING

The Safeguarding Committee will endeavour to achieve consensus in relation to matters requiring a decision.

In the absence of consensus, matters for decision by the Committee shall be decided by a majority of votes of those present. If the Principal is not in agreement the matter will then be referred to the Board.

NOTE

The Safeguarding Committee does not oversee day-to-day management of safeguarding practices or the core work of the Safeguarding Coordinator. It does however provide strategic and skilled guidance and advice to the College Board and leaders, including the Safeguarding Coordinator.

RELATED DOCUMENTS

- Safeguarding Children and Young People Policy
- Safeguarding Children and Young People Code of Conduct
- Safeguarding Children and Young People Commitment Statement
- Safeguarding Children and Young People Agreement
- St Dominic's Priory College Staff Code of Conduct

REVISION RECORD

Document Title	Safeguarding Children & Young People Code of Conduct					
Document Type	Policy					
Document Date	March 2021					
Process Owner	College Principal					
Contact	Dr. Helen Steele (hsteele@stdominic.sa.edu.au)					
Approval Authority	College Board					
Review Date	2023; 2024; 2027					
Distribution	Website	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	SEQTA	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Sharepoint	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
History	Edition	Date	Description of change			
	1.0	2021	Drafted			
	2.0	2023	Reviewed			
	3.0	2024	Reviewed			



SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE AGREEMENT

I, (Full Name) _____ confirm I have been provided with and have read the following documents:

- Safeguarding Children and Young People Policy
- Safeguarding Children and Young People Code of Conduct
- Safeguarding Children and Young People Commitment Statement

I have understood the content of this suite and agree to adhere to all elements as described.

Signature: _____

Date: _____

I am aware of the other relating documents

- Safeguarding Children and Young People Committee Terms of Reference
- St Dominic's Priory College Staff Code of Conduct

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