



BALWYN NORTH  
Primary School

## Child Safe Code of Conduct

**Balwyn North Primary School is committed to the safety and wellbeing of children. Our school community recognises the importance of, and a responsibility for, ensuring our school is a safe, supportive and enriching environment which respects and fosters the dignity and self-esteem of children and enables them to thrive in their learning and development.**

**All personnel (including volunteers) of Balwyn North Primary School are responsible for supporting the safety, participation, wellbeing and empowerment of children by:**

- adhering to the Balwyn North Primary School Child Safe Policy 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 (for example, by never questioning an Aboriginal child's self-identification)
- promoting the cultural safety, participation and empowerment of children with culturally and/or linguistically diverse backgrounds (for example, by having a zero tolerance of discrimination)
- promoting the safety, participation and empowerment of children with a disability (for example, during personal care activities)
- ensuring as far as practicable that adults are not left alone with an individual child
- reporting any allegations of child abuse to Balwyn North Primary School Child Safety Officer (Assistant Principal) / leadership, and ensure any allegation is reported to the police or child protection
- reporting any child safety concerns Balwyn North Primary School Child Safety Officer (Assistant Principal) / leadership
- 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' on issues that are important to them.

**Staff and volunteers must not:**

- 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)
- 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 (for example, personal social activities)
- 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 culture, race, ethnicity or disability
- ignore or disregard any suspected or disclosed child abuse.

By observing these standards you acknowledge your responsibility to immediately report any breach of this code to Balwyn North Primary School Child Safety Officer (Assistant Principal) / leadership.

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

I agree to adhere to this Code of Conduct:

This Code of Conduct is mandated as a condition of entry to Balwyn North Primary School, via the electronic Compass induction.

Name: .....

Signature: .....

Date: .....