



HALE SCHOOL

Statement of Commitment to and Practice of Child Safety

This statement reiterates our collective and ongoing commitment to the safety and protection of every boy in this School. As an education institution, Hale School embraces the role it plays in the lives of the boys. The School supports and respects the participation and empowerment of all children, and wants boys to feel safe and valued. Important facets of this endeavour are outlined in various policies, codes and support material. These documents mandate the following foundations of our practice;

- We believe that we have a shared and collective responsibility to educate and raise awareness so that all staff, students, parents, volunteers and contractors can understand, identify, prevent and effectively report child abuse.
- Every person connected with this school has a duty of care to the boys and must appreciate that child safety is their responsibility.
- Our School culture aims for all members of the Hale community, including the boys and their parents and guardians, to feel comfortable and confident in discussing allegations of child abuse or child safety concerns.
- The School has a visible, structured process for reporting and acting on any concerns. There is zero tolerance for any form of child abuse and all allegations or concerns are treated seriously and in line with our policies and those outlined by external authorities.
- The School takes seriously its social and ethical as well as legislative obligations to uphold child safety through robust screening and induction of employees.
- The School will always take all reasonable steps to employ skilled and suitable people for child-related duties, with a commitment to providing a safe, inclusive, and equitable environment for all.
- The School is committed to facilitating regular training and education on child safety so that we can reinforce a living, inherent and shared responsibility for protecting children. We ensure that all staff and boys have an explicit understanding and ability to identify risks early and mitigate those risks appropriately.
- Hale School upholds an inclusive culture, and accordingly is committed to the cultural safety of Aboriginal children, the cultural safety of children from culturally and/or linguistically diverse backgrounds, and to providing a safe environment for children living with a disability.