

Pastoral Care - Child Protection

Pastoral care is the support given to students for their development as a person. It relates to the total care of students and involves tending to both the academic and non-academic needs of students including spiritual, emotional and social wellbeing.

Marian College is committed to providing a safe, supportive and social environment where students feel nurtured as they learn.

To this end, we have developed, and continue to develop, a comprehensive range of pastoral care policies and procedures that are designed to promote the social and emotional wellbeing of our students, and to deliver age appropriate education to all students about:

- healthy and respectful relationships;
- child abuse awareness and a child's right to be safe;
- a child's right to make decisions about their body and their privacy;
- how they can raise concerns about abuse;
- resilience and coping with adversity;
- the fact that any concerns they do raise will be taken seriously and responded to appropriately;
- our Child Protection and Safety Policy and Child Safety Code of Conduct; and
- standards of behaviour for students.

We are committed to ensuring that child abuse reporting procedures are age appropriate, simple, and accessible for all children including children from culturally diverse backgrounds and children with a disability.

Students are encouraged to provide feedback about child safety and protection issues at the College and the College conducts student focus groups and organises student surveys about various safety issues at the College, including child protection. The College takes all student contributions seriously and actively looks for ways to implement improvements to its Child Protection Program to reflect these contributions.

Information about these topics, as well as other child safety and wellbeing topics, is made available to all students through various age appropriate pastoral care initiatives as well as communications such as newsletters and the College's intranet. Child safety and wellbeing topics are also incorporated into the College curriculum.