

Child Safety Leader Role

Avondale Primary School 2019



Identified leader: Joe Scarfo (Assistant Principal)

The role of Child Safety Leader includes leadership support and the ability to direct other staff (where appropriate) to undertake the role effectively.



Key Activities of a Child Safety Leader at Avondale Primary School

Broad areas of the role are to:

Provide authoritative advice

- act as a source of support, advice and expertise to staff on matters of child safety
- liaise with the principal and school leaders to maintain the visibility of child safety
- lead the development of the school's child safety culture, including being a child safety champion and providing coordination in communicating, implementing, monitoring, enhancing and reporting on strategies to embed a culture of child safety.

Raise awareness

- ensure the school's policies are known and used appropriately
- ensure the school's child safety policy is reviewed in the context of school self-evaluation undertaken as part of the school accountability framework
- ensure the child protection policy is available publicly and parents are aware of the fact that referrals about suspected abuse or neglect may be made and the role of the school in this
- be alert to the specific needs of children in need, those with special educational needs and young carers
- encourage among all staff a culture of listening to children and taking account of their wishes and feelings in any measures to protect them.

Train

Being authoritative in providing advice by:

- keeping their skills up to date with appropriate training carried out every two years
- having a working knowledge of how the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) and Community Service Organisations conduct a child protection case conference to be able to attend and contribute to these effectively when required to do so.

Protect

- be able to keep detailed, accurate, secure written records of concerns and referral
- ensure each member of staff has access to and understands the school's child safety policy and procedures, especially new and part time staff
- make sure staff are aware of training opportunities and the latest DHHS and DET policies and guidance.



PROTECT

Everyone has the right to be safe and be protected from abuse.

No one should behave in a way that makes you feel unsafe or afraid, including anyone in your family, anyone at school or anywhere else in the community.

Tell a teacher or any adult at your school if you feel unsafe.



It's everyone's responsibility.

Adults at school must listen and respond to concerns about child abuse.

If you suspect abuse of any child or young person, you have a responsibility to report it, even if you are not sure.

Further information & resources

www.education.vic.gov.au/protect