

Child Protection Procedure

Confidentiality will be respected and maintained at all times, throughout all phases of the child protection process and the matter will ONLY be discussed with other professionals who are responsible for ensuring the safety of all children. All educators at Settlers Farm Campus Kindergarten are mandatory notifiers. Educators have a legal responsibility to contact CARL on 131478 or online where they suspect abuse has occurred.

The decision to report any suspected cases of child abuse or neglect will be seen as a fundamental professional responsibility of any person employed at the kindergarten. Please refer to the DECD 'Child-safe environments OUR COMMUNITY RESPONSE TO CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT Guidelines for mandated notifiers and information for organisations' policy (April 2017) and DfE Child protection in schools, early childhood education and care (February 2021) that guides the centre's procedures.

The fundamental professional responsibility of a caregiver to contact Department of Child Protection will take priority over the client/worker relationship considerations.

The Kindergarten's main responsibility in this area is to ensure the safety of each and every child and support the children's right to feel safe and secure in their environment. Parents receive information informing them of the ideas and concepts being introduced to their child through the implementation of the Keeping Safe: Child Protection Curriculum that is delivered by trained early childhood teachers.

The contact person for child protection concerns in this site is the Director or other certified supervisor. This is the process for all volunteers and students.

References:

- Keeping safe: Child Protection Curriculum
- DECD Child-safe environments OUR COMMUNITY RESPONSE TO CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT: Guidelines for mandated notifiers and information for organisations April 2017
- DfE Child protection in schools, early childhood education and care February 2021
- DfE Protective practices for staff in their interaction with children and young people: guidelines for staff working or volunteering in education and care settings September 2020
- Managing allegations of sexual misconduct in SA education and care settings July 2020
- Responding to problem sexual behaviour in children and young people: Guidelines for staff in education and care settings October 2019
- Early Years Learning Framework: Outcome 1: Children have a strong sense of identity - Children feel safe, secure, and supported
- National Quality Standard 2.2.3
- Education and Care Services National Regulations: Regulation: 168 (2) (h). Regulation: 84
- <https://www.education.sa.gov.au/supporting-students/child-protection/child-protection-policies-and-guidelines>
- <https://www.education.sa.gov.au/working-us/ran-ec-training/ran-ec-tools-concerns-notifications-and-records>

Created: 30th May 2018

Reviewed: 20th May 2021

To be reviewed: as needed