

October 2022

Dear Parents/Carers,

RE: Keeping Safe: Child Protection Curriculum

Some of the core values of Dale Christian School are Glorifying God, Honouring God's word, obedience and respect, stewardship and responsibility, justice and mercy, co-operation, truth, discernment and pursuing excellence. As a result of these core values, there is a high emphasis placed on the safety, wellbeing and protection of the children and young people placed within our care. Each student has the right to feel safe, be respected and to be protected from harm. For this reason, and in line with government regulations, Dale Christian School uses the Keeping Safe: Child Protection Curriculum as a basis for teaching students about the right to be safe, relationships, recognising and reporting abuse and protective strategies.

The instruction on these topics surrounding child safety may be perceived as being part of the Health curriculum in all year levels, but it takes place throughout the various learning areas as appropriate. The teaching of this Protective Behaviours curriculum is part of non-Government school's registration with the Department of Education as stated in:

Non-Government School Regulation, July 2022 - Standard 10 Child Abuse Prevention

10.1 The school implements the National Child Safe Organisation Principles.

10.6 All students receive a protective behaviours and sexual abuse prevention education which:

- a) is developed by experts in child abuse prevention;
- b) is age and development-stage appropriate;
- c) is culturally appropriate;
- d) is integrated into the curriculum of the school and makes relevant subject matter links;
- e) includes e-safety education; and
- f) builds practical self-protective skills and strategies.

The Keeping Safe: Child Protection Curriculum is delivered throughout the year to all year levels from Kindergarten to Year 12. As a requirement for the registration of non-government schools, parent permission is not required; however, we encourage parents/carers to seek further clarification if required and to provide the teacher with any relevant information about their child that could alleviate any concerns.

The Keeping Safe: Child Protection Curriculum is an evidence-based, best practice curriculum developed collaboratively with child protection specialists, teachers, educational leaders and other professionals. It covers a range of topics including new additional material on current issues such as bullying and cyber safety.

The Keeping Safe: Child Protection Curriculum allows for communication specific to the year level of the students, specific to students from culturally and/or linguistically diverse backgrounds and explicitly for students with disability.

There are two main themes and four focus areas:

Themes

1. We all have the right to be safe
2. We can help ourselves to be safe by talking to people we trust

Focus Areas

1. The right to be safe
2. Relationships
3. Recognising and reporting abuse
4. Protective strategies

Please refer to the Keeping Safe: Child Protection Curriculum overview document which outlines the structure of the curriculum according to year levels.

If you have any questions or concerns regarding the implementation of this curriculum, please contact the Principals of the School via Reception on 94971444 or by email dalecs@dalecs.wa.edu.au.

Kind regards,

Mr F Jordaan
School Principal

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A Ministry of the Armadale Congregational Church Inc.

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