



*Here at St Joseph's, we firmly believe all students enrolled, and any child visiting, have the right to feel safe and be safe in all school environments and outside of school hours. The wellbeing of children in our care will always be our first priority and we have zero tolerance to child abuse. We aim to create a child safe and child friendly environment where children feel safe and are free to enjoy life to the full without any concern for their safety.*

## **Volunteer Expectations**

### **Rationale**

At St Joseph's Primary, we believe volunteers play a key role in the development of a connected, involved and engaged school community. We believe volunteering strengthens the connections between families, parish and school community and broadens the perspectives and voices contributing to the life of the school.

### **Aims**

- Provide opportunities to be part of the learning process for children and young people
- Develop an enhanced sense of personal satisfaction and connectedness to the school
- Learn and share skills, experiences and expertise related to the learning of our students
- Provide students with opportunities to interact with a range of role models and adults from the community

### **Volunteer Induction Criteria:**

1. Role of the volunteer
2. Commitment to Child Safety
3. General Assistance
4. Confidentiality
5. Working With Children Check

## **1. Role of the volunteer:**

We deeply value the importance of volunteers and the role they play in providing our children with positive, exciting and memorable learning experiences. At all times, we expect the volunteer to consider and adhere to our expectations in the knowledge that Child Safety, privacy, confidentiality and the development of self- esteem, resourcefulness, independence, leadership, judgement, cooperation and tolerance are our core business while on school camp.

At all times, we ask volunteers to:

- Report any unsafe behaviour or concerns they have to a staff member and/or staff member in charge.
- Advise a staff member or staff member in charge of inappropriate behaviour but not reprimand the child/ren involved.
- Maintain a respectful tone when communicating with children, staff and outside agencies.

## **2. Commitment to Child Safety:**

At St Joseph's Primary, we believe all children have the right to feel safe and be safe. The wellbeing of children in our care will always be our first priority and we have zero tolerance to child abuse. We aim to create a child safe and child friendly environment where children feel safe and are free to enjoy life to the full without any concern for their safety.

## **3. General Assistance:**

A major part of the volunteer's role is to offer general assistance to children and staff members as part of the day to day running of the school. St Francis Primary expects and demands the following of volunteers:

- Volunteers should not be 1:1 with any child at any time. Volunteers have the right to voice concerns to a staff member if they feel they are working in a position or area that does not adequately provide them with additional supervision while working with students.

## **4. Confidentiality:**

Confidentiality is central to our core business of ensuring Child Safety for all. Therefore, for while operating as a volunteer, the following expectations of volunteers in relation to confidentiality are expected:

- Volunteers are not to take photos of children on their own personal devices.
- Volunteers are not to post comments and/or media files relating to activities and/or events on social media platforms such as Facebook, Twitter, Snapchat or Instagram.
- Due to the social, engaging nature of the school environment, St Joseph's Primary expects that volunteers will show respect and confidentiality when sharing stories about individual children and only share positive experiences. At all times, we expect volunteers to consider the privacy of students when sharing information regarding what they saw or heard during their time as a volunteer.

## **5. Working With Children Check:**

In line with government legislation, it is essential that all volunteers have a current Working With Children Check. The check needs to have been completed and the volunteer is able to provide the relevant documentation when needed for he/she to attend the school camp.