



CHILD SAFETY and MANDATORY REPORTING POLICY
School Council Endorsed: August 2016
Reviewed: June 2018

PURPOSE

Elwood College will support all staff in fulfilling their responsibilities under the *Children, Youth and Families Act 2005* and *Ministerial Order 870* to make a report to Child Protection based on a reasonable belief that a child is in need of protection from sexual abuse or physical injury.

GUIDELINES

The College and staff will adhere to processes within the [DEECD Mandatory Reporting Policy](#) and joint DET, DHS, Licensed Children's Services and Victorian Schools [Mandatory Reporting Protocol](#).

IMPLEMENTATION

1. The College will inform staff of Mandatory Reporting requirements as part of their initial induction and provide further information on the DET Mandatory Reporting Policy and joint Mandatory Reporting protocol in the College Staff Handbook.
2. The College will brief all members of staff and College Council about its Mandatory Reporting Policy and procedures to meet the requirements under the Children, Youth and Families Act 2005 and the Child Safe Standards annually.
3. The College will provide training or access to training to staff on Mandatory Reporting and Child Safe Standards requirements and indicators of a child or young person who may be in need of protection.

RESOURCES

Ministerial Order 870: Child Safe Standards – Managing the Risk of Child Abuse in Schools

<http://www.gazette.vic.gov.au/gazette/Gazettes2016/GG2016S002.pdf>

DET's **online** resources in the "Protect" section.

<http://www.education.vic.gov.au/about/programs/health/protect/Pages/schobligationsorder.aspx>

DET Child Safe Standards

<http://www.education.vic.gov.au/about/programs/health/protect/Pages/childsafestandards.aspx>

Protecting the safety and wellbeing of children and young people mandatory reporting protocol

<http://www.education.vic.gov.au/Documents/school/principals/spag/safety/protectionofchildren.pdf>

DHS: Reporting Child Abuse

<https://services.dhhs.vic.gov.au/child-protection>

EVALUATION

Date approved by School Council	September 13, 2016
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