

# Mimi School Board of Trustees Child Protection Policy

## Outcome statement

Students at Mimi School thrive, belong and achieve to the best of their ability. The school is committed to the prevention of child abuse and neglect and to the protection of all children.

## Scoping

All staff members (including contractors and volunteers) are expected to be familiar with this policy, its associated procedures and protocols and abide by them.

Advice will be sought through appropriate agencies in all cases of suspected or alleged abuse.

In line with Section 15 of the [Oranga Tamariki Act 1989](#), any person in our school/kura who believes that any child or young person has been or is likely to be harmed (whether physically, emotionally or sexually), ill treated, abused, neglected or deprived must follow school procedures and may also report the matter to a social worker or the local Police.

## Delegations

Although ultimate accountability sits with the board, the board delegates responsibility to the principal to ensure that all child safety procedures are implemented and available to all staff, contractors, volunteers and parents.

## Expectations and limitations

The principal must:

- develop appropriate procedures to meet child safety requirements as required and appropriate to the school
- comply with relevant legislative requirements and responsibilities
- make this policy available on the school's internet site or available on request
- ensure that every contract or funding arrangement that the school enters into requires the adoption of child protection policies where required
- ensure the interests and protection of the child are paramount in all circumstances
- recognise the rights of family/whānau to participate in the decision making about their children
- ensure that all staff are able to identify the signs and symptoms of potential abuse and neglect and deal with disclosures by children and allegations against staff members and are able to take appropriate action in response
- support all staff to work in accordance with this policy to work with partner agencies and organisations to ensure child protection procedures are understood and implemented
- promote a culture where staff feel confident they can constructively challenge poor practice or raise issues of concern without fear of reprisal
- consult, discuss and share relevant information with the board or designated person in line with our commitment to confidentiality and information-sharing protocols in a timely way regarding any concerns about an individual child
- seek advice as necessary from NZSTA advisers on employment matters and other relevant agencies where child safety issues arise
- make available professional development, resources and/or advice to ensure all staff can carry out their roles in terms of this policy
- ensure that this policy forms part of the initial staff induction programme for each staff member.

## Procedures/supporting documentation

Care and Management of Students  
Physical and Emotional Health of Students  
Child Protection  
Safe Practice Professional Development  
Abuse Recognition and Reporting  
Definitions and Indicators of Child Abuse/Neglect/Family Violence  
Managing Challenging Behaviours and Physical Restraint  
Bullying  
Harassment

Sexual Harassment of Students  
Sexual Behaviour in Children  
Publishing Student Information  
Privacy  
Education Outside the Classroom

- EOTC Risk Management
- EOTC Supervision
- EOTC Parent Help
- EOTC Transport

Collection of children after school  
Visitors to the school

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Non-Custodial Parents	hours
Crisis Management	Vulnerable Children Act 2014
Preventing and Responding to Suicide	Children, Young Persons, and Their Families (Oranga Tamariki) Legislation Act 2017
Contractors Working at School	Investigate a Formal Complaint or Serious Allegation
Children present during working bees outside school	

### Monitoring

Mimi School's Principal will consult with the relevant authorities before any information, regarding Child Protection, is shared with the full board. In the event of issues or concerns being raised regarding a child, in relation to Child Protection, the Board Chair will be informed of an investigation as soon as possible. At all times the identity of the child and any identifying information will be kept private following the schools Privacy procedures.

### Reviewing our child protection related policies and procedures

Our child protection policies are reviewed every one to three years. Mimi School's Principal is the designated person for child protection. The Principal and the Board of Trustees is involved in reviewing any child protection-related policies and procedures.

The following policies are reviewed yearly as part of the school's Implementation Audits and Reports:

Vetting Requirements for Non-Teachers  
Abuse Reporting Procedure  
Teacher Registration and Police Vetting  
Appointment Procedure

### Legislative compliance

<http://www.nzsta.org.nz/> – further information including frequently asked questions

<http://www.education.govt.nz/>

[Vulnerable Children Act 2014](#)

[Oranga Tamariki Ministry for Children](#) – further information and sample child protection templates

Review schedule: Annually

Ratified by the Board: \_\_\_\_\_ Signed Board Chairperson  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Signed by the Principal  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

Reviewed:  
Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Reviewed:  
Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

