# New Windsor School

Term 3 2022

## Child Protection

New Windsor School aims to ensure the safety, wellbeing, and security of all children by practising open and accountable child-centred decision-making. We recognise the importance of involving family/whānau in decision-making about their children, and will involve children in decision-making about themselves in age-appropriate ways. We acknowledge that child protection is everyone's responsibility and we promote our child protection policies to our school community.

"Child", in the context of our school's child protection policies, means a child or young person aged under 18 years (who is not married or in a civil union) – Children's Act 2014.

### Sharing information

We share information with appropriate agencies if sharing that information will protect or improve the safety, health, or wellbeing of a child. In all circumstances, New Windsor School is carefully guided by **privacy** considerations in the sharing of information. By law, we can share information with the police and Oranga Tamariki – Ministry for Children.

### Student and staff safety

We take concerns about the safety of students seriously, and respond to them quickly. Prevention and early intervention are important, and we use the least intrusive intervention possible to protect vulnerable children.

We promote a culture where staff feel confident that they can challenge poor practice, or raise issues of concern without fear of reprisal. See **Protected Disclosure**.

When addressing a formal complaint, the school does not use settlement agreements where these contradict a culture of child protection. See **Investigate a Formal Complaint or Serious Allegation**.

### Child protection policy requirements

Schools are subject to the Children's Act 2014, and must have child protection policies which are readily available. As required by the Act, child protection practices are incorporated into our policies and procedures. New Windsor School has a designated person responsible for child protection policies. Our designated person is the principal, and is the primary point of contact for concerns about a child, including concerns about abuse or neglect. Our child protection policies apply to school staff, contractors, and volunteers.

### External agency interviews

If Oranga Tamariki – Ministry of Children contacts the school to interview a child, that child has the right to a support person to sit alongside them if they wish. This support person (e.g. guidance counsellor, teacher, or principal) focuses on the safety and wellbeing of the child.

The police may contact the school to question a student – that student has the right to remain silent, and the right to a lawyer. If the student is under 18 and is interviewed by police they can nominate an adult to support them. See **Youth Law: Rights with the Police**.

### Reviewing our policies and procedures related to child protection

Key child protection policies and procedures are reviewed at least once every three years as part of the SchoolDocs **review cycle** (see table below). Our school's designated person for child protection is involved in reviewing any policies and procedures related to child protection.

The principal **assures the board** yearly on the implementation of key **child protection policies/procedures**.

| Relevant section | Child protection policies and procedures |
|---|---|
| **Student Safety and Welfare** | ☑ **Safe Practice Professional Development** |
| | ☑ **Care and Management of Students** |
| | ☑ **Sexual Behaviour in Children** |
| | ☑ **Behaviour Management**, especially **Bullying and Online Bullying** |
| | ☑ **Abuse Recognition and Reporting**, including **Definitions and Indicators of Child Abuse/Neglect/Family Violence** |
| | ☑ **Supporting Student Wellbeing** |
| **Health, Safety, and Welfare Policy** (scheduled review) | ☑ **Digital Technology and Cybersafety** |
| | ☑ **Harassment** |
| | ☑ **Contractors Working at School** |
| | ☑ **Separated Parents, Day-to-Day Care, and Guardianship** |
| | ☑ **Physical Restraint** |
| | ☑ **Staff Social Media** |
| | ☑ **Visitors** |
| **Employer Responsibility Policy** (scheduled review) | ☑ **Appointment Procedure** (especially **Conduct Interviews**, **Referee and Background Checks**) |
| | ☑ **Concerns and Complaints** |
| | ☑ **Protected Disclosure** |
| | ☑ **Teacher Certification and Police Vetting** |

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| **Legislation and Administration Policy** (scheduled review) | ☑ | **Privacy** |
| **Curriculum and Student Achievement Policy** (scheduled review) | ☑ | **Learning Support** (especially **Learning Support Supervision**) |
| | ☑ | **EOTC** (especially **EOTC Parent Help**) |
| **Parents and Whānau** | ☑ | **Parent Involvement** |

## Legislation

- Children's Act 2014
- Oranga Tamariki Act 1989
- Children, Young Persons, and Their Families (Oranga Tamariki) Legislation Act 2017
- Privacy Act 2020
- Health and Safety at Work Act 2015

## Resources

- Oranga Tamariki – Ministry for Children: **Children's Teams**
- Oranga Tamariki – Ministry for Children: **Safer Organisations, Safer Children** (Guidelines for child protection policies to build safer organisations)
- Child Matters: **Child Protection Policy** (offers child protection training and a policy advisory service)
- Ministry of Health: **Is that Child OK?**
- Safeguarding Children: **Online courses and seminars**
- United Nations Human Rights: **Convention on the Rights of the Child**

**Release history**: **Term 1 2021**, **Term 4 2020**, **Term 3 2019**, **Term 4 2017**

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| *Last **scheduled review*** | *Term 3 2020* |
| *Last **internal review*** | *Term 4 2020* |
| ***Topic type*** | *Generic* |