Child Safety Policy

Rationale:
Hallam Senior College is and has always been committed to child safety. This requires the College to develop, implement, monitor and evaluate risk management strategies to ensure child safety in school environments.

Aims:
1. Identify the school’s child safety risks
2. Identify any risk mitigation measures and internal controls
3. Assess and rate the school’s child safety risks given the existing controls in place, taking into account the likelihood of risk, and the likely consequence of the risk
4. If the risk is more than the “acceptable level”, identify further risk management strategies through additional controls or prevention, detection or mitigation strategies and then reassess the risk
5. To ensure College processes and practices respond to the recommendations of the Betrayal of Trust inquiry by enacting Ministerial Order No. 870, address Child Safe Standards and meet the requirements for VRQA registration

Implementation:
- Hallam Senior College will have zero tolerance of child abuse. The child abuse includes physical violence, sexual offences, serious emotional or psychological abuse and serious neglect.
- All people engaged or recruited for child-related work, including volunteers, are required to hold a current Working with Children Check and/or VIT teacher registration to provide evidence for the College’s records. This is consistent with the College Staff Register Policy and Working with Children Check Policy
- Implement the College Mandatory Reporting Policy and ensure new teachers are inducted and that it is included in the staff manual that is available to all staff. The Mandatory Reporting policy articulates legislative requirements for staff and advice on when and how to make reports.
- Any allegations of abuse and/or safety concerns and any subsequent school investigations will be documented and securely stored
- The induction process for volunteers will include guidance on how to respond if they have concerns about a child’s safety
- Ensure appropriate supervision of all classes, excursions, camps and school environment. This is consistent with the College Excursion, Incursion, Onsite Supervision policies and Camps Guidelines which articulate expectations and risk management strategies. In turn, these align with DET policies and procedures.
- The College is committed to cultural safety for Aboriginal children, cultural safety for children from culturally and/or linguistically diverse backgrounds, and to providing a safe environment for children with a disability by making appropriate accommodations
- Key staff will be identified within the school that have knowledge of child safety issues and will act as the key contact point for others who have questions or concerns or want to report an allegation of child abuse. These key staff are the Principal team, the Leading Teacher Student Support Services and other Leading Teachers as appropriate including those identified in the Mandatory Reporting policy.
- Proactive strategies to address e-safety including through activities associated with our membership of the Allanah and Madeline Foundation
- Implementation of the bullying and harassment mitigation strategies
- Membership of the Safe School Coalition
Hallam Senior College: Child Safety Policy

LINKS
Education and Training Reform Act 2006
Child Safe Standards – Managing The Risk Of Child Abuse In Schools
Ministerial Order No. 870

College Policies
- Staff Register
- Working with Children Check
- Mandatory Reporting
- Excursion
- Incursion
- Onsite Supervision
- Camps Guidelines
- Anti-bullying and Harassment

Safe School Coalition
Alannah and Madeline Foundation
E Smart School

Evaluation
This policy will be reviewed bi-annually or more often if necessary due to changes in regulations or circumstances

Ratification
This plan was last ratified by school Council on 12 September 2016.