



# St Michael's School Traralgon

## New Child Safe Standards

The newly revised Child Safe Standards came into effect on the 1st July 2022.

The protection of children and young people is based on the belief that each person is made in the image and likeness of God and that the inherent dignity of all should be recognised and fostered.

St Michael's is committed to child protection strategies and procedures to ensure the care and protection of all children and young people in the school and safeguarding children and young people against all forms of neglect and/or abuse.

The new Child safe standards were mandated on the 1st July 2022 to further strengthen child safe environments and protect children from abuse. These standards will replace the previous seven standards and the focus of each one is detailed below. As a part of St Michael's ongoing commitment to child safety, our Child Safety Team will ensure that these are unpacked, implemented and actioned within the school environment with all staff, students and families. This will take place over the remainder of the year. More information will be shared through the school newsletter.

### **Child Safe Standard One**

Establish a culturally safe environment in which the diverse and unique identities and experiences of Aboriginal children and young people are respected and valued.

### **Child Safe Standard Two**

Ensure child safety and wellbeing is embedded in organisational leadership, governance and culture.

### **Child Safe Standard Three**

Children and young people are empowered about their rights, participate in decisions affecting them and are taken seriously.

### **Child Safe Standard Four**

Families and communities are informed, and involved in promoting child safety and wellbeing.

### **Child Safe Standard Five**

Equity is upheld and diverse needs respected in policy and practice.

### **Child Safe Standard Six**

People working with children and young people are suitable and supported to reflect child safety and wellbeing values in practice.

### **Child Safe Standard Seven**

Processes for complaints and concerns are child focused.

### **Child Safe Standard Eight**

Staff and volunteers are equipped with the knowledge, skills and awareness to keep children and young people safe through ongoing education and training.

**Child Safe Standard Nine**

Physical and online environments promote safety and wellbeing while minimising the opportunity for children and young people to be harmed.

**Child Safe Standard Ten**

Implementation of the Child Safe Standards is regularly reviewed and improved.

**Child Safe Standard Eleven**

Policies and procedures document how the organisation is safe for children and young people.