

Child Safety
Code of Conduct – Volunteers
attending School Camps and Excursions
Alphington Primary School



Alphington Primary School is committed to the safety and wellbeing of children. Our school community recognises the significant responsibility of ensuring our school is a safe, supportive and enriching environment which respects and fosters the dignity and self-esteem of children. This enables them to thrive in their learning and development.

This Code of Conduct aims to protect children and reduce any potential opportunities for child abuse or harm to occur. It also assists in understanding how to prevent or better manage behaviours and situations that may put children at risk. It is intended to complement child protection legislation, Department policies, school policies, procedures and professional standards, codes or ethics as these apply to staff and other personnel.

The Principal and School Leaders of Alphington Primary School will support the implementation and monitoring of the Code of Conduct, and will provide information and support to ensure it operates effectively.

All volunteers and any other members of the school community involved in child-related work are required to comply with the Code of Conduct by observing expectations for appropriate behaviour below. The Code of Conduct applies in all school activities, including school camps, authorised school activities, excursions and the use of digital technology and social media.

Acceptable behaviours

As a volunteer on a school camp or excursion I am responsible for supporting and promoting the safety of children by:

- upholding the school's statement of commitment to child safety at all times and adhering to the school's Child Safety Policy
- treating students and families in the school community with respect both within and outside the school environment
- listening and responding to the views and concerns of students, particularly if they are telling me that they or another child has been abused or that they are worried about their safety/the safety of another child
- promoting the cultural safety, participation and empowerment of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students
- promoting the cultural safety, participation and empowerment of students with culturally and/or linguistically diverse backgrounds
- promoting the safety, participation and empowerment of students with a disability
- reporting any allegations of child abuse or other child safety concerns to the school's leadership in accordance with the schools Child Safety Policy
- ensuring as quickly as possible that the student(s) are safe and protected from harm and informing the classroom teacher or leadership member ASAP

Unacceptable behaviours

As a volunteer on school camp or excursion I will not:

- ignore or disregard any concerns, suspicions or disclosures of child abuse
- develop a relationship with any student that could be seen as favouritism or amount to 'grooming' behaviour (for example, offering gifts)
- exhibit behaviours or engage in activities with students which may be interpreted as abusive and not justified by the educational, therapeutic, or service delivery context
- ignore behaviours by other adults towards students when they appear to be overly familiar or inappropriate
- discuss content of an intimate nature or use sexual innuendo with students
- treat a child unfavourably because of their disability, age, gender, race, culture, vulnerability, sexuality or ethnicity
- communicate directly with a student other than my own through personal or private contact channels (including by social media, email, instant messaging, texting etc) except where that communication is reasonable in all the circumstances, related to school work or extra-curricular activities or where there is a safety concern or other urgent matter
- photograph or video a child with the exception of my own child
- take or distribute any photographs or recordings of students unless instructed to do so by the supervising teacher
- consume alcohol in front of students or while supervising students or take illicit drugs under any circumstances
- exhibit behaviors with children which may be construed as unnecessarily physical (for example inappropriate sitting on laps.
- put children at risk of abuse do things of a personal nature that a child can do for themselves, such as toileting or changing clothes
- use inappropriate language in the presence of children
- express personal views on cultures, race or sexuality in the presence of children

If you believe a child is at immediate risk of abuse phone 000.

I agree to adhere to this Code of Conduct:

Name:

Signature:

Date:

