



6.14 Statement of Commitment to Child Safety

Policy Statement

The Pittwater House School is committed to promoting the safety, welfare and wellbeing of our students. The School takes a preventive, proactive and participatory approach to child safety with a commitment to the participation and empowerment of all children as well as the needs of all students, including those with a disability, indigenous students and children from culturally and/or linguistically diverse backgrounds.

This Statement provides the framework for:

1. The development of practices, policies and procedures that promote child protection, safety and wellbeing at Pittwater House
2. The creation of a safe and supportive School environment with a positive and proactive child protection culture ensuring all children and young people know who to talk with if they are worried or are feeling unsafe, and that they are comfortable and encouraged to raise such issues
3. The promotion and open discussion of child protection within the School with a culture of openness that supports all persons to safely disclose risks of harm to children
4. Complying with all relevant to child protection in NSW legislation and standards.

This Statement should be read in conjunction with the School's Code of Conduct (versions available for various roles), Child Protection Policy and Child Protection Procedure

Guiding Principle

At all times, the safety, welfare and well-being of students and children will be the paramount consideration in all decisions made and actions taken.

Application

This Statement applies to the School and its staff, volunteers, third party contractors, external education providers, student teachers and students, for the safety, protection and well-being of all Pittwater House students.

It is an expectation and requirement that all staff commit to our Child Protection Policy and relevant Staff Code of Conduct.

Statement of Commitment

Pittwater House is committed to provide a safe, friendly and productive learning environment for students and staff, where each student matters every day. We see it as our task to produce happy, confident and successful adults. To achieve this we believe that our students should be safe, and should feel safe and that they should be at the centre of all our decision making. We are committed to student agency in all things, including student safety.

Child Safe Values and Principles

The following child safe principles guide the School's commitment to child safety and form the basis for all child protection policies and procedures.

- All children have the right to be safe
- The safety and protection of our students is everyone's responsibility
- Our students' welfare and well-being are paramount

- Our various codes of conduct set clear expectations of behaviour for all those working with our students.
- Procedures to screen all employees, volunteers, third party contractors and external stakeholders beings before their engagement.
- Working with children checks and training are a requirement for all employees, third party contractors, and Board members.
- Our Child Protection Policy is robust and well communicated and understood by staff, the accompanying Child Protection Procedure is a clear and simple communication tool.
- Student voice is important to us, students voices, views and options are listened to with respect and taken seriously.

Version	Revision Details	Revised by:	Authorised by:	Date:
1			LP	12/7/2023