



Child Risk Management Strategy

Purpose:	The purpose of this strategy is to eliminate and minimise risk to student safety to ensure the safety and wellbeing of all students.	
Scope:	Students and employees, including full-time, part-time, permanent, fixed-term and casual employees, as well as contractors, volunteers and people undertaking work experience or vocational placements.	
Status:	Approved	Supersedes: Previous
Authorised by:	School Board Chairperson	Date of Authorisation: 05/02/2018
References:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Working with Children (Risk Management and Screening) Act 2000 (Qld) • Working with Children (Risk Management and Screening) Regulation 2011 (Qld) • Child Protection Act 1999 (Qld) • Education (Accreditation of Non-State Schools) Act 2017 (Qld) • Education (Accreditation of Non-State Schools) Regulation 2017 (Qld) • Education (General Provisions) Act 2006 (Qld) • Education (General Provisions) Regulation 2017 (Qld) • Education Services for Overseas Students (ESOS) Act 2000 (Cth) • Education (Overseas Students) Regulation 1998 (Qld) • Education (Queensland College of Teachers) Act 2005 (Qld) • Education and Care Services National Law (Queensland) • Education and Care Services National Regulations • Child and Youth Risk Management Strategy Toolkit 	
Associated documents:	N/A	
Review Date:	Every three years	Last Review Date: 07/05/2022 Next Review Date: 07/05/2025
Policy Owner:	School Governing Body	

Policy Statement and a Statement about Commitment

Redlands College is committed to taking all reasonable steps to promote the safety and wellbeing of students enrolled at the school and their protection from foreseeable harm.¹

Implementation

In practice, Redlands College's commitment to acting in accordance to the *Working with Children (Risk Management and Screening) Act 2000* (Qld) ("the **Act**") to promote the safety and wellbeing of students means that it will implement the measures outlined below in points 1 - 8.

1. Code of Conduct

At Redlands College we expect our employees to conduct themselves as follows:

School employees are expected to always behave in ways that promote the safety, welfare and well-being of our students. Employees must actively seek to prevent harm to students, and to support those who have been harmed.

Specific responsibilities include:

- Employees should avoid situations where they are alone in an enclosed space with a student.
- When physical contact with a student is a necessary part of the teaching/learning experience, employees must exercise caution to ensure that the contact is appropriate and acceptable. Employees must always advise the student of what they intend doing and seek their consent.
- Employees must not develop a relationship with any student that is, or that can be interpreted as having a personal rather than a professional interest in a student.
- Employees must not have a romantic or sexual relationship with a student.

This commitment is evidence of Redlands College fulfilment of the requirements of the Regulations S3(1)(b).

2. Recruitment, Selection, Training and Management Procedures

Redlands College is committed to recruiting, selecting, training and managing employees in such a way that limits risks to students. In particular, Redlands College will:

- Ensure that its recruitment and selection procedures act to reduce the risk of harm to children from employees via:
 - Accurate position descriptions, including whether the successful applicant must be a teacher registered with the Queensland College of Teachers (who has been subject to relevant police and other safety checks), whether a Blue Card is necessary for the successful applicant, the responsibilities and supervision associated with the position, the nature and environment of the service provided to students, and the experience and qualifications required by the successful applicant.
 - Advertising the position with a clear statement about the school's commitment to safe and supportive work practices and identifying that candidates will be subject to a teacher registration check or Blue Card screening, a police check, referee

¹ *Working with Children (Risk Management and Screening) Regulation 2011* (Qld) Reg.3

- checks, identification verification and the requirement to disclose any information relevant to the candidates' eligibility to engage in activities including children.
- A selection process that includes assessing the application via an interview process and referee and other checks (as identified above) based on the accurate position description.
- A probationary period of employment, which allows the school to further assess the suitability of the new employee and to act as a check on the selection process.
- Ensure that its training and management procedures act to reduce the risk of harm to students from employees via:
 - Management processes that are consistent, fair and supportive.
 - Performance management processes to help employees to improve their performance in a positive manner.
 - Supportive processes for staff when they are experiencing challenges, such as mentoring, mediation, conflict resolution, coaching, additional training, and external support and counselling services.
 - An induction program which thoroughly addresses the school's policies and procedures, particularly its expectations regarding student risk management and to assist employees to understand their role in providing a safe and supportive environment for students.
 - Training new and existing staff on an ongoing basis to enhance skills and knowledge and to reduce exposure to risks, as follows:
 - the school's policies and procedures
 - identifying, assessing and minimising risks to students
 - handling a disclosure or suspicion of harm to a child.
 - Keeping a record of the training provided to employees.
 - Exit interviews to assist the school to identify broader issues of concern that may impact on the safety and wellbeing of students at the school.

This commitment is evidence of Redlands College fulfilment of the requirements of the Regulations S3(1)(c).

3. Handling Disclosures or Suspicions of Harm

Any of the types of concerns or reports below should be reported and managed under the Redlands College's Child Protection Policy as follows:

- all staff with concerns about sexual abuse or likely sexual abuse
- teachers with concerns of sexual or physical abuse
- all staff who have received a report of inappropriate behaviour by another staff member.

To report any type of harm, all staff members should use the Report of Suspected Harm or Sexual Abuse Form in Appendix 2 of this document.

Furthermore, and in accordance with section 76 of the *Education (Queensland College of Teachers) Act 2005*, the Principal of Redlands College will report to the Queensland College of Teachers any investigations into allegations of harm caused, or likely to be caused, to a student because of the conduct of a relevant teacher at the school.

This commitment is evidence of Redlands College fulfilment of the requirements of the Regulations 3(1)(d).

4. Managing Breaches of this Child Risk Management Strategy

Redlands College is committed to appropriately managing breaches of this Child Risk Management Strategy in accordance with its other relevant policies as appropriate in the circumstances, such as its Child Protection Policy, Employee Code of Conduct, Staff Grievance Policy and Enterprise Bargaining Agreement, and this is evidence of fulfilment of the requirements of the Regulations S3(1)(e).

5. Implementing and Reviewing the Child Risk Management Strategy

This Strategy in its entirety and its related policies and procedures are evidence of fulfilment of the requirements of the Regulations S3(1)(f)(i) relating to implementation.

The introduction to this Child Risk Management Strategy and the "Compliance and Monitoring" section below state Redlands College commitment to reviewing the Strategy annually and are evidence of fulfilment of the requirements of the Regulations S3(1)(f)(i) relating to review.

6. Blue Card Policies and Procedures

Redlands College Blue Card Register are evidence of fulfilment of the requirements of the Regulations S3(1)(f)(ii).

This commitment is evidence of Redlands College fulfilment of the requirements of the Regulations S3(1)(f)(ii).

7. High Risk Management Plans

Redlands College is committed to identifying risks, assessing risks, eliminating and minimising risks and the monitoring of risk to the safety of students on an ongoing basis. Redlands College will utilise various risk management tools to assist it in this process and will keep appropriate records of decisions made and actions taken in relation to risks to children.

This commitment is evidence of Redlands College fulfilment of the requirements of the Regulations S3(1)(g).

8. Strategies of Communication and Support

Redlands College's commitment to making this Child Risk Management Strategy available to students, parents and employees via its employee handbook and school intranet site is evidence of fulfilment of the requirements of the Regulations S3(1)(h)(i).

Redlands College is committed to training employees in relation to risks to students and will conduct this training regularly via annual formal training events, informal updates at staff meetings and regular discussions between managers and their staff, and this is evidence of fulfilment of the requirements of the Regulations S3(1)(h)(ii).

Responsibilities

Redlands College is responsible for developing and implementing this Child Risk Management Strategy and related policies and procedures to ensure it fulfils its obligations.

All employees at Redlands College are responsible for acting in compliance with this Child Risk Management Strategy and related policies and procedures.

Compliance and Monitoring

Redlands College is committed to the annual review of this Strategy. Redlands College will also record, monitor and report to the College Board, the Executive Team and others as appropriate at the College regarding any breaches of the Strategy.

In addition, Redlands College is committed to other various compliance and monitoring arrangements made under relevant policies and procedures.

Related Documents

- Redlands College Child Protection Policy
- Redlands College Blue Card Register
- Redlands College Risk Management Framework
- Redlands College Complaints Handling Policy

Helpful Links

- Independent Schools Queensland's [Child Protection Decision Support Trees](#)
- Department of Communities, Child Safety and Disability Services' [Child Protection Guide](#) resource

Appendices

- Appendix 1 - Summary of Reporting Harm
- Appendix 2 - Child Protection Reporting Form
- Appendix 3 - Management of Self-Injury Guidelines

Appendix 1

Summary of Reporting Harm

Who	What abuse	Test	Report to	Legislation
All staff	Sexual	Awareness or a suspicion Sexually abused or likely to be sexually abused	Principal, through to police	EGPA sections 366 and 366A
Teacher	Sexual and physical	Significant harm Parent may not be willing and able	Confer with principal, report to Child Safety	CPA sections 13E and 13G
All staff	Physical, psychological, emotional, neglect, exploitation	Significant harm Parent may not be willing and able	Principal, through to Child Safety	Accreditation Regulations section 16
All staff	Any	Not a level that is otherwise reportable to Child Safety, refer with consent	Principal, through to Family and Child Connect	CPA Sections 13B and 159M
Principal	Any	Not a level that is otherwise reportable to Child Safety, refer without consent	Family and Child Connect	CPA Sections 13B and 159M
Any member of the public	Any	Significant harm Parent may not be willing and able	Child Safety	CPA section 13A

Appendix 2



Private and Confidential

Child Protection Reporting Form

Date:	
Name of Staff Member completing this report:	
College Phone: 07 3286 0222	College Fax: 07 32073799
DETAILS OF STUDENT/CHILD HARMED OR AT RISK OF HARM/ABUSE:	
Legal Name:	Preferred Name:
DOB:	Gender:
Year Level:	Cultural Background:
Aboriginal <input type="checkbox"/> Torres Strait Islander <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander <input type="checkbox"/>	
Does the student have a disability verified under EAP: Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>	Disability Category:
Student's Residential Address:	Phone:
	Student's Personal Mobile:
FAMILY DETAILS	
Parent/caregiver 1:	Relationship to Student:
Address (if different from student):	
Phone: (H):	(W):
	(M):
Parent/caregiver 2:	Relationship to Student:
Address (if different from student):	
Phone: (H):	(W):
	(M):
Is the student in out of home care: Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>	
PERSON ALLEGED TO HAVE CAUSED THE HARM OR ABUSE	
<input type="checkbox"/> Adult family member <input type="checkbox"/> Child family member <input type="checkbox"/> Other adult <input type="checkbox"/> Student/other child <input type="checkbox"/> Unknown	
Details:	

PROVIDE ALL INFORMATION YOU HAVE WHICH LED TO THE SUSPICION OF HARM OR ABUSE (Attach extra pages if necessary).

Details of any harm and/or sexual abuse to the student – please include: Time and date of the incident; source of information; details of person alleged to have caused the harm or sexual abuse; physical appearance of any injury; immediate and ongoing safety concerns; any disclosures made by student; any previous incidents of harm; behavioural indicators of harm; presence of any medical needs or developmental delays; and if the information relates to an unborn child, the alleged risk to the unborn child.

Please indicate the identity of anyone else who may have information about the harm or abuse:

Additional information provided as an attachment YES NO

Name of staff member making report to the Statutory Agency if not the Principal:	Signature:	Date:
Position:		
Principal:	Signature:	Date:

Principal's email address:

Response requested by College:			
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ACTION TAKEN

Form was faxed or emailed to (please tick which agencies the form was sent to):	<input type="checkbox"/>	Department of Communities – Child Safety – South East Ph: 1300 679 849 (Business Hours) Ph: 1800 177 135 (After Hours) seintake@communities.qld.gov.au
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Wynnum Policy – Child Protection Investigation Unit Ph: 3308 8177 cpiu.wynnum@policy.qld.gov.au
	<input type="checkbox"/>	OTHER

(Adapted from EQ SP-4 Report of Suspected Harm or Risk of Harm) **Confirm receipt of faxed or emailed form and ensure original is stored in a secure location along with any other documentation collected for the purpose of this report.**

Appendix 3

Management of Self-Injury Guidelines

Definitions

Self-harm is defined as a behaviour, not an illness. People self-harm in an attempt to cope with strong feelings such as anger, despair or self-hatred and/or to communicate their distress. Self-harm includes self-poisoning, overdose, minor self-injury, as well as potentially dangerous and life-threatening forms of injury. Some people who self-harm can be suicidal at the time, others report never feeling suicidal.

Self-injury is a subset on the broader self-harming behaviour continuum. Self-injury normally does not imply suicidal intent and regularly takes the form of cutting, burning, carving and wound interference.

Mild self-injury is classed as superficial cuts on wrist, etc requiring basic first aid.

Moderate to severe self-injury is classed as any injury that requires further medical attention by a GP or hospital.

Student Self-Injury Management Process

Policy guidelines

- Students may be sent home if they self-injure at school (unless home is not a safe place to be for whatever reason).
- Students should not attend class if they have large open wounds which are bleeding or are upsetting them.
- Students with fresh or open wounds should have them assessed and treated in the First Aid Centre. Fresh or open wounds should be covered.
- Students using dangerous objects to harm themselves at school will have this addressed and managed within a safety plan.
- Parents/Carers may be informed if their child is engaging in non-suicidal self-injury.

Initial response if a student self-injures or discloses self-injury whilst at school

- Staff members should remain calm and not overreact.
- Ascertain if emergency medical attention (eg: call 000) is required.

- Contact the First Aid Centre and Wellbeing immediately.
- Reinforce to the student that they have done the right thing in disclosing their injury.
- Do not leave the young person unattended or in the responsibility of another student.
- Advise First Aid or Wellbeing of any additional information known about the self-injury.

Staff Responsibilities – Duty of Care

- Students should be permitted to go to First Aid if they request.
- Beyond obtaining the basic information required before sending a student to First Aid or Wellbeing, teaching staff should not press the student for further details or information.
- The First Aid Attendant will perform an immediate medical assessment and organise treatment of fresh wounds at the First Aid Centre. Students with moderate to severe wounds or substance abuse that requires further medical attention will be discharged into their parent's care or 000 as needed.
- Appoint a CRISIS POINT PERSON (normally a school counsellor) to speak with the student and manage intervention and safety planning.
- The Point Person will liaise with parents and relevant staff.
- The Point Person will inform the student exactly who is going to be told about their self-harm and their safety plan.
- The Point Person in consultation with the Director of Wellbeing will determine under what circumstances parents/carers should be contacted. The exception to telling parents is when this would likely increase the young person's risk of self-harm and trigger further. Prior to contacting parents/carers the Point Person should have a good understanding of the student's home situation.
- Students and their parents/carers should be provided with resources and a care plan along with information on referral to an outside professional. The role of the school counsellor in this situation is to monitor, support and liaise with external providers.
- For students who have inflicted moderate to severe self-injury, the Point Person along with the appropriate school leader (HOS, Director or Dean of Year) should follow through with a meeting with parents and a return to school plan for the student. The return to school plan should include:
 - Student Management and Safety plan.
 - If fresh wounds are present, they must be covered whilst at school.

- Only relevant staff will be informed of and included in the Student Safety Plan.
- Continued support and follow up with the student to be provided at school in collaboration with parents and external providers.

School Protocol Process

The flowchart below can help school staff decide what action(s) to take after discovering that a student may be engaging in self-injury.

