**Our Lady of the Assumption Parish Primary School**

**Child Safety Student Version Policy**

***Date of policy: 21/8/20***

***Date of last major review:***

***Date of next major review: 2024***

***Reviewed by: Josy Reeder and Richard Jacques***

# Rationale

*Everyone has the right to be safe and be protected from unsafe behaviours. No one should behave in a way that makes you feel unsafe or afraid, including anyone in your family, anyone at your school or anywhere else in the community.*

At Our Lady of the Assumption Parish Primary School we are committed to keeping children safe. The school helps and looks after everyone; old and young, students with different beliefs and different backgrounds. The school has many ways to keep children from harm.

# Aims

The teachers are committed to keeping children safe. This means that the children at this school should feel safe and not worried or scared that something bad will happen to them. The teachers and staff in the school know what to do if someone says they feel unsafe. Commitment to Child Safety All children attending Our Lady of the Assumption Parish Primary School have the right to feel safe. The school does not accept bullying or any type of unsafe behaviour. The teachers will talk to the children about bullying and unsafe behaviour.

# Implementation

**Risk Management**

Our Lady of the Assumption Parish Primary School Staff know that it is important to keep our school a safe place. The school looks for problems or things that might be unsafe and then if there are any problems the school fixes them straight away. We should always tell someone if we see a risk. At Our Lady of the Assumption we teach students to name five trusted adults in the school that they can speak to if they feel uncomfortable, overwhelmed or need to share something that is upsetting them. If the student does not feel heard the first time, the student needs to go to the next person on their list until the student feels that they have been heard.

**Code of Conduct**

Our Lady of the Assumption Parish Primary School makes sure there is a Code of Cooperation (an agreement to behave safely – Appendix 1) for all staff including teachers, priests, emergency teachers, parent helpers, other volunteers and workers that clearly outlines the behaviour they need to show. We have procedures in place for when visitors come to our school.

Hiring Staff and Staff Training Before employing staff, our school checks the background of people to see if a person is suitable to work with children. Some of the things the school does to ensure they are right for the school are:

• Check if they have been in trouble with the police

• Ask them to behave safely

• Make sure they follow our rules

• Check that they have a Working with Children card

• See what they did for their last job

• The Principal talks to the people that worked with them last to see if they’re safe people. Once they have settled into our school they get more information and training about child safety.

**Inclusion and Empowerment for all Students and Young People.**

All the staff and teachers at our school help children understand that they have a right to feel safe and secure. Classroom activities like circle time help us understand our rights. There are displays and posters in the school informing us what we can do if we feel unsafe. Students at our school can speak up.

**Valuing Differences**

Our Lady of the Assumption Parish Primary School values differences and does not put up with any kind of teasing because people are different. The school helps and looks after ALL students;

• students with different backgrounds

• students that are different shapes and sizes

• students with different beliefs

• students that like different things

• students that have different abilities.

Ministerial Order No. 870 – Managing the Risk of Child Abuse in Schools was made under the Education and Training Reform Act 2006 (Vic.) and sets out the specific actions that all Victorian schools must take to meet the requirements in the Child Safe Standards.