

GUIDING PRINCIPLES FOR SAFE SCHOOLS

Rationale:

At St Francis Xavier Catholic Primary School we are committed to providing a safe and supportive environment for all students. We commit time and effort to promoting positive relationships and effective ways of dealing with conflict and eliminating bullying behaviour. We are committed to working together with parents, in order to reinforce safety concepts and strategies at home. We therefore fully endorse the principles of The National Safe Schools Framework as stated below.

Australian schools:

1. affirm the right of all school community members to feel safe at school
2. promote care, respect and cooperation, and value diversity
3. implement policies, programmes and processes to nurture a safe and supportive school environment
4. recognise that quality leadership is an essential element that underpins the creation of a safe and supportive school environment
5. develop and implement policies and programmes through processes that engage the whole school community
6. ensure that roles and responsibilities of all members of the school community in promoting a safe and supportive environment are explicit, clearly understood and disseminated
7. recognise the critical importance of pre-service and ongoing professional development in creating a safe and supportive school environment
8. have a responsibility to provide opportunities for students to learn through the formal curriculum, the knowledge, skills and dispositions needed for positive relationships
9. focus on policies that are proactive and oriented towards prevention and intervention
10. regularly monitor and evaluate their policies and programmes so that evidence-based practice supports decisions and improvements
11. take action to protect children from all forms of abuse and neglect