



Child Safe Statement of Commitment

In accordance with the National Principles for Child Safe Organisations, Silver Tree Steiner School is committed to providing a child-safe environment which safeguards all students and is committed to promoting practices which provide for the safety, wellbeing and welfare of our children.

The Child Safe Statement of Commitment serves to protect students, reduce any opportunities for abuse or harm to occur, and promote child safety in the Silver Tree Steiner School environment. It is intended to complement child protection legislation, school policies and is an adjunct to the School's Code of Conduct for Staff, Board of Governors, Contractors and Volunteers and Code of Conduct for Parents and forms part of the contract between the School, and any visitors, volunteers or contractors. (See Visitors and Volunteers Policy and Contractors Management Policy).

All adults {18 years and over} who are visiting Silver Tree Steiner School or who work with or supervise children at the School or on school related activities off campus, are expected to support and honour our Child Safe Statement of Commitment. This includes all visitors, employees, Board members, practicum students, parents, volunteers and contractors of Silver Tree Steiner School.

Silver Tree Steiner School explicitly forbids the use of any form of child abuse, corporal punishment or other degrading punishment as defined in our Child Protection Policy.

You are expected to:

- Be a positive role model to students.
- Promote the safety, welfare, and wellbeing of students.
- Be vigilant and proactive regarding student safety and child protection issues.
- Provide age-appropriate supervision for students.
- Act in accordance with the School's child protection and safety policies at all times.
- Consider and respect the diverse backgrounds and needs of children.
- Help create an environment that promotes and enables children's participation and is welcoming, culturally safe and inclusive for all children and their families.
- Use positive and affirming language towards students.
- Encourage students to 'have a say' and participate, and then listen to them with respect
- Respect cultural, religious, and political differences.
- Help provide an open, safe, and supportive environment for all students to interact, and socialise.
- Comply with Privacy laws and the School's policies and procedures on privacy, confidentiality, information sharing and record keeping.

You are expected to NOT:

- Engage in any form of inappropriate behaviour towards students or expose students to such behaviour.
- Use prejudice, oppressive behaviour, or inappropriate language with students.
- Express personal views on cultures, race, or sexuality in the presence of students or discriminate against any student based on culture, race, ethnicity, or disability.
- Engage in open discussions of an adult nature in the presence of students.
- Engage in any form of sexual conduct with a student including making sexually suggestive comments, sharing sexually suggestive material or grooming.
- Engage in inappropriate or unnecessary physical conduct or behaviours including doing things of a personal nature that a student can do for themselves, e.g. toileting or changing clothes.
- Engage in any form of physical violence towards a student including inappropriately rough physical play.
- Use physical means or corporal punishment to discipline or control a student
- Engage in any form of behaviour that has the potential to cause a student serious emotional or psychological harm.
- Develop 'special' relationships with students that could be favouritism (e.g. the offering of gifts or special treatment for specific students).
- Engage in undisclosed private meetings with a student that is not your own child.
- Engage in meetings with a child that is not your own, outside of school hours and without permission from the School or the child's parent.
- Engage in inappropriate personal communications with a student through any medium, including any online contact or interactions with a student.
- Take or publish (including online) photos, movies, or recordings of a student without parental/carer consent.
- Post online any information about a student that may identify them such as their full name; age; e-mail address; telephone number; residence; school; or details of a club they may attend.
- Ignore or disregard any suspected or disclosed child abuse.
- Consume alcohol or take illicit drugs under any circumstances in the school environment or at other school events where students are present.
- Share or provide illicit drugs or alcohol to students on or off campus.

If you think this Child Safe Statement of Commitment has been broken by another person at Silver Tree Steiner School, you are expected to:

- Take actions promptly to ensure that children are safe.
- Promptly report concerns about child safety or breaches of this Agreement to the Principal.
- Follow School's policies and procedures regarding complaints and concerns.

Breaches of the Child Safe Statement of Commitment may lead to you being asked to leave the School site, may include disciplinary action or the termination of engagement with Silver Tree Steiner School. If you have any concern that a child has been harmed, is at risk of harm, or you receive a disclosure, please contact the Head of School immediately.