

Policy number	002		002
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Responsible person	Steven Nicholas	Scheduled review date	August 2025

CHILD SAFE RATIONALE

Olivet Christian College has an overarching priority that all children in our care are safe, feel safe and that child abuse is non-existent in our community.

INTRODUCTION

The Board, Leadership Team, staff, volunteers, and contractors at Olivet Christian College are required to abide by this Code of Conduct

On entering the site of Olivet Christian College, we become representatives of this school and its Christian beliefs, ethos, and values.

This Code of Conduct is in addition to the Staff Code of Conduct, VIT Code of Conduct & relevant Induction documents.

IMPLEMENTATION

All people involved in the care of children on behalf of Olivet Christian College will:

1. Work towards the achievement of the aims and purposes of the College.
2. Treat students with respect as people created in God's image. We will treat students the same way we would expect to be treated.
3. Be responsible for relevant administration of programs and activities in their area.
4. Maintain a duty of care towards others involved in these programs and activities.
5. Establish and maintain a child-safe environment in the course of their work.
6. Be fair, considerate, and honest with others.
7. Treat children and young people with respect and value their ideas and opinions.
8. Act as positive role models in their conduct with children and young people.
9. Be professional in their actions.
10. Maintain strict impartiality.
11. Comply with specific College guidelines and policies on physical contact with children.
12. Comply with College guidelines in respect to counselling of individual students.
13. Respect the privacy of children, their families/carers, and teachers, and only disclose information to people who have a need to know.
14. Maintain a child-safe environment for children and young people.
15. Operate within the policies and guidelines of Olivet Christian College; and
16. Contact the police if a child is at immediate risk of abuse (telephone 000).

No person shall:

1. Shame, humiliate, oppress, belittle, or degrade children or young people.
2. Unlawfully discriminate against any child.
3. Engage in any activity with a child or young person that is likely to harm them physically or emotionally.
4. Initiate unnecessary physical contact with a child or young person, or do things of a personal nature for them that they can do for themselves.
5. Use any form of aggressive physical contact.

6. Transport any student in a vehicle without parental permission (emergencies may be excepted)
7. Physically restrain a child who is trying to walk away unless they are in imminent danger.
8. Be alone with a child or young person unnecessarily and for more than a very short time.
9. Develop a 'special' relationship with a specific child or young person for their own needs.
10. Show favouritism through the provision of gifts or inappropriate attention.
11. Arrange contact, including online contact, with children or young people outside of the College's programs and activities.
12. Photograph or video a child or young person without the consent of the child and his/her parents or guardians.
13. Work with children or young people while under the influence of alcohol or illegal drugs.
14. Engage in open discussions of a mature or adult nature in the presence of children.
15. Use inappropriate language in the presence of children; or
16. Do anything in contravention of the College's policies, procedures, or this Code of Conduct.

GUIDELINES REGARDING CONTACT WITH STUDENTS

USE OF AMENITY BLOCKS

When on site, Staff, Volunteers & Contractors should avoid using the boys or girl's toilets. The disabled toilets are available for male staff use. On camps or excursions staff should avoid using student designated bathrooms, if possible.

COUNSELLING OF STUDENTS

Being alone with a student in circumstances where they and you are not visible to other adults should be avoided.

Counselling of individual students may only be conducted in visible locations e.g., a classroom, the Principals Office, or the Administration office, Outside Picnic Table. If any other area is used for counselling at least two adults must be present. On camps and excursion, an open area accessible to and in view of others should be selected.

PHYSICAL CONTACT

Any form of suggestive or inappropriate physical contact, e.g., inappropriate touching, kissing, hugging or a student sitting on an adult's lap must be avoided.

In some cases, where a staff member deems it to be appropriate for the comfort of a student, a hug is permissible providing it is short in duration, around the shoulder area and side-on, and in public view.

ADMINISTERING FIRST AID

All first aid (except in the case of emergency treatment whilst waiting for an ambulance) must be administered in the Office. If first aid is required on camps and excursions the patient must remain with the group or vice versa.

If during a camp or excursion a single child is unable to join with the group due to medical reasons, two adults or one adult and a student friend of the child is to remain.

WHAT HAPPENS IF YOU BREACH THIS CODE OF CONDUCT?

If you breach this Child Safety Code of Conduct you will face disciplinary action, including and up to termination of employment or cessation of engagement with the College.

Any allegations of child abuse or charges made against a registered teacher will be immediately reported to the VIT.

By observing these standards, you acknowledge your responsibility to immediately report any breach of this code to the principal.

I have read, understood, and accepted the standards and expectations of the Executive, staff, volunteers, and contractors at Olivet Christian College, and I agree to adhere to this Code of Conduct:

Name:

Signature: Date:

I have never been charged with child abuse and have never had an allegation of child abuse made against me.

Name:

Signature: Date: