

Child Safety Policy – Student version

Policy Category: Child Safety

Status: Edited 21.4.26 – Lakeside College

At Lakeside College, we hold the care, safety and wellbeing of children and young people as a central and fundamental responsibility of our Lakeside College.

Child Safety Policy – Student Version

Keeping you safe

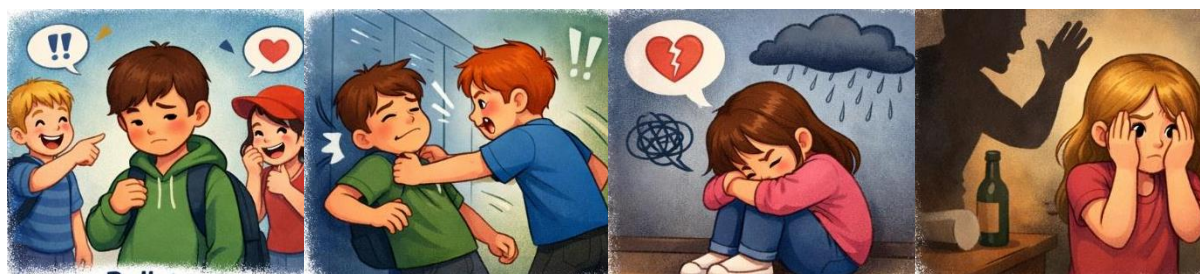
Lakeside College is committed to the safety and wellbeing of children and young people. All members of Lakeside College – including teachers, staff, volunteers, parents, families and students – have a role to play to ensure that children and young people are safe.

Children and young people have a right to feel safe: at home, at school and anywhere else they go. Our College works hard to keep children and young people safe.

Everyone in the school is responsible to protect children and young people from harm. Children and young people at our school do not need to feel worried or scared that something bad will happen to them. The school has a Child Safety and Wellbeing Policy to help us make safe choices about what happens in the school.

Your safety

All students and young people at Lakeside College have the right to feel safe. The school does not accept bullying or any kind of unsafe behaviour.



Bullying

Physical

Emotional

Abuse

Safety means that children and young people are free from physical abuse, mental and emotional abuse, sexual abuse, online abuse neglect and the effects of family violence.

Some of these things may include:

1. Physical touch to any private areas
2. Hugs from unknown people
3. Unsafe secrets – “let me tell you a secret but you cannot tell anyone”
4. Inappropriate gift giving

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.

Our school has many ways to keep you from harm.

Ask for help

If you feel unsafe or believe you have been abused, you can tell any adult at Lakeside College. Mr Webster, Mr Kupke, Mrs Trewin, Mrs Rothwell and Mr Tassoni are our child safety officers. You could speak to them or another trusted adult.



Mr Webster
Primary Wellbeing
Coordinator



Mr Kupke
Head of Primary
School



Mrs Trewin
Head of Secondary
School



Mrs Rothwell
Director of College
Operations



Mr Tassoni
Principal

All adults in our school are committed to keeping children safe. This means that you should feel safe and not worried or scared that something bad will happen if you do ask for help. Our staff know what to do if you do ask for help or say that you feel uncomfortable or unsafe.

At our school, there are **5 Child Safety Officers** who help to make Lakeside College a safe place. If you ever have a concern about your safety or the safety of other children or young people, Mr Webster, Mr Kupke, Mrs Trewin, Mrs Rothwell and Mr Tassoni are there to help. If you feel more comfortable, you could speak to any trusted adult at Lakeside College – the most important part is to speak up.



Brooke Hill
School Nurse



Melissa McIntyre
Student Services



Nina Matar
Executive Assistant

All students can speak up if they feel uncomfortable, unsafe or worried for another student and their safety. They should feel comfortable to speak with a teacher or staff member they trust if they feel unsafe or if they need help. They can trust that adults will listen to them. If a student talks about something that is making them feel unsafe, the information will only be shared with people who can support and protect them.

All adults working at Lakeside College have a responsibility to protect any child under their care. They will be able to help you.

- The trusted adult/s will listen to your concerns and find a way to help you.
- You can speak to the trusted adult in private where the person who makes you feel uncomfortable or unsafe, will not be told by you directly.
- Information will only be shared with people who can support and protect you.
- In some cases, the people helping you have to tell the police, the Department of Families, Fairness and Housing (DFFH) Child Protection services and/or your family to prevent any further abuse, or risk of someone hurting you.

Help others



If you ever think that you or someone else is not safe, it is important to tell a trusted adult at Lakeside College. This could be a teacher or another staff member you feel comfortable talking to. If a friend or another young person tells you something that makes you worried about their safety, you should encourage them to speak to a trusted adult too. Even if they ask you not to tell anyone, it is still important to speak up so that they can get the help and support they need. At Lakeside College, all staff are here to listen and to help make sure every child feels safe, protected, and cared for.

Extra support and help

Our Lakeside College values differences. Sometimes, students will need special support to keep them safe and make sure they feel cared for. We respect, help, and care for ALL students including:

- Students with different backgrounds
- Students that are different shapes and sizes

- Students with different beliefs
- Students that like different things and have different personalities and interests
- Students of all ages
- Students with different abilities
- Students have different ways of learning
- Students of all genders
- Students of all sexual orientations



Students with Different Backgrounds



Students with Different Abilities



Students who like Different Things

Keeping ourselves safe

Lakeside College knows that it is important to keep checking that our school is safe. The school looks out for problems or things that might be unsafe and then, if there are problems, they try to fix them as soon as they can. We should always tell someone if we see a risk.



Environmental



Physical



Unknown People



Abuse

Lakeside College knows that it is important that we talk about safety with students, teachers and parents. We want to make sure that all students are able to:

- keep themselves safe
- keep others safe
- recognise when something is dangerous
- know what to do when they see a risk

We have a Code of Conduct that explains the behaviour that everyone in the school needs to show. The Code of Conduct is available on the Lakeside College website. There are rules for adults as well as children.

There is a Code of Conduct for:

1. All teachers and CRT's
2. All adults working at the school
3. Parent helpers and volunteers
4. Pastors
5. Lakeside College Board Directors

Student participation

This policy was written with our year 6 and 12 student leaders. Our school actively encourages all students to express their views and to be comfortable to give their voice to things that are important to them.

Lakeside College encourages student voice on child safety. Students can provide feedback to the Lakeside College through:

1. Student Leadership Team
2. Homeroom Teachers
3. Teachers, Leaders, Wellbeing/Year Level Coordinators and Principal
4. Student Surveys,

Students with concerns or ideas around child safety are encouraged to speak up.

Student complaints

You can raise complaints or concerns to your teacher, any staff or a child safety officer. You can also send them confidentially to our childsafes@lakeside.vic.edu.au address where this will be received, and you can stay anonymous.

We will look into your complaint or concern as soon as we receive it, and we will make sure that it is fully investigated to understand the problem and ensure we can keep you safe or look into the problem you are raising to us further. Depending on the type of complaint or concern we may need to discuss it with you further, but it will be with someone that you are comfortable to do this with. We can also let you and/or the student leadership team know what we did with your complaint.

Further Information

If you would like further information about the way the Lakeside College manages its policy management framework, the first point of contact is with Mr Paul Mulqueen, Lakeside College's Risk and Compliance Officer

Policy Control & Approval Information

Policy Category	Policy Risk Rating	Approved	Date Approved	Next Review
Child Safety	High	Principal, Executive Team, Child Safe Management Team	2/03/2026	02/2027