

CHILD PROTECTION POLICY

Preamble

Rosebank College, in fulfillment of its mission and ministry within the Church, educates students in the Good Samaritan tradition of a safe and supportive school environment. The College is committed to the total care of its students - physically, emotionally, intellectually and spiritually. It provides an environment, which respects their freedom and dignity as persons while safeguarding them from violence and exploitation. The safety, protection and well-being of all students is of fundamental importance to the College.

All members of the College community have the responsibility to provide high quality interpersonal relationships of care and support, grounded in mutual respect, dignity, fairness, reconciliation, restoration, compassion and justice. Child protection is a community responsibility.

Definition

A safe and supportive school environment is one that protects and promotes the emotional, psychological and physical well-being of students, and members of the school community.

A safe environment is one where risk of harm is minimized students and all members of the Rosebank community feel secure.

A supportive environment facilitates and enhances the social, academic, physical and emotional development of students, and members of the school community. Where high quality, respectful and positive relationships exist, the risk of harm to children is minimized.

Legislation

In relation to Child Protection, the College focuses on the protection of the students from abuse - sexual, physical and psychological - and/or neglect.

The policy recognises the responsibility of the agency (Rosebank College) to respond to all allegations and aims to ensure compliance with relevant legislation and Codes of Practice including the three key pieces of child protection legislation in NSW:

- *Ombudsman Act 1974*
- *Commission for Children and Young People Act, 1998*
- *The Children and Young Persons (Care and Protection) Act, 1998*

Our policy is also informed by:

- *Good Samaritan Interim Code of Practice for Responsible Intervention In relation to the Care and Protection of Students, 1999.*

Obligations to Report

The College has an obligation to report any concerns as a mandatory reporter that involve the safety, welfare and well-being of children.