

502 Child Protection

Rationale

All children are valued, respected and are safe from any form of abuse

Purposes

1. To ensure that children have a safe and respectful learning environment.
2. An environment is fostered that enables children to comfortably discuss issues with teachers.
3. That if a child at Omata School is abused, shows signs of abuse or abuse is disclosed, the school has a clear legal responsibility to disclose to the appropriate agency and respond in a supportive, appropriate manner.

Guidelines

1. Omata School has programmes as part of the health curriculum to educate children about many aspects of health and well-being.
2. Teachers have the resources to identify and respond to children's needs with regard to the wider aspect of their learning and safety.
3. That adults in the school environment are sensitive to children so that children are able to feel heard.
4. If abuse is identified, safety of the child/children is paramount, the Principal is informed, the school interacts with legally obligated agencies and where appropriate, discussed with parents to ensure the most support for the child/children. All suspected and actual cases are acted on and documented.
5. That parents are advised that they must declare criminal convictions when they apply to assist as parent helps or on any school activity where they may be supervising students.

Ratified by Board: 20 June 2005

Reviewed: 6 November 2017

Signed for B.O.T. _____

