

CHILD INFORMATION SHARING SCHEME AT AQUINAS



The Child Information Sharing Scheme allows authorised organisations to share information to support child wellbeing and/or safety. Many organisations already work together to do this. The Scheme has expanded legal permissions for professionals to share and request information from other professionals.

How does it impact the College?

Information may be sought from the College by external organisations. This includes information considered of a confidential nature, with the purpose of supporting and enhancing child safety and wellness. If an external organisation approaches the College to seek information, it must follow this process:

1. Information is sought through the Principal's office. Requests for information will be made through contact on the principal@aquinas.vic.edu.au email address.
2. The request will be forward to Deputy Principal (Nap) who will liaise with the relevant internal department.
3. Information may be requested from internal departments such as the YFC, ESS, HC, Pastoral Teams, etc.
4. Once information is collected, it will be shared from the Principal's office.

We have a number of staff who have been trained in understanding the processes involved in the new scheme, which derives from Ministerial Order 870. The staff who have undertaken the training, and who could offer support and guidance are:

- Deputy Principal (Nap)
- Heads of Years
- Director of the Youth and Family Centre
- Child Safety and Student Wellbeing Coordinator

Under the scheme, the College cannot negate the sharing of information if the request meets the threshold as outlined in the legislation underpinning the process.

Further information is available here: <https://www.vic.gov.au/child-information-sharing-scheme>