



STATEMENT OF COMMITMENT TO CHILD SAFETY

Bialik College is committed to the safety and wellbeing of all children and young people. We understand our responsibilities and statutory duty of care to comply with both the Victorian Child Safe Standards and the Reportable Conduct Scheme to build our capacity as an organisation to prevent child abuse and respond to suspicion or allegations of child abuse.

The College is committed to implementing and abiding by our *Child Protection Policy* and our *ELC Bialik Child Safety and Wellbeing Policy* based on Child Safe Standards in Victoria (2022), which accentuates our *zero tolerance* for child abuse and commitment to raising awareness about the importance of ensuring child safety in our school and the community.

We are dedicated to protecting children from abuse and neglect, promoting a child safe environment, and maintaining children's wellbeing. We adhere to our comprehensive Child Protection Policies, fulfilling our mandatory reporting responsibilities to protect children from physical, sexual, emotional and psychological abuse and neglect.

We consistently work to ensure there is clear awareness and understanding of appropriate and inappropriate behaviour concerning adults and children. We require clear boundaries between children and employees, volunteers and the community in order to ensure children's safety.

We are dedicated to promoting cultural safety for Aboriginal children, cultural safety for children from culturally and/or linguistically diverse backgrounds, and to providing a safe environment for children with a disability.

As a proudly pluralistic institution, Bialik College values diversity of all kinds and does not tolerate any discriminatory practices.

We are committed to ongoing professional development for employees and volunteers to maintain their ability to identify and respond to incidents of abuse and neglect, ensuring employees and volunteers are alert to their responsibilities in keeping children safe.

We work to comply with the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child and have confidence in educating children about their right to be safe. We believe in teaching children how to recognise and what to do if they feel unsafe and encouraging them to express their views and thoughts on matters that directly affect them. We provide clear guidance on the support systems which they have access to in order to communicate their needs and concerns.

As educators we listen to and empower children to act on any concerns, they or others may raise which is reflective in our policies and procedures in keeping children safe.