



# Student Protection Processes



Mary MacKillop College  
2018+

## Student Protection

The Archdiocese of Brisbane Catholic Education Council Student Protection Policy reminds us that Jesus insisted on the primacy of love: love of God and love of each other. No one was excluded from his love. In fact, by word and deed He showed a special preference for the poor, the powerless and the vulnerable, those often relegated to the margins of society. He especially loved children ‘for such are the Kingdom of heaven.’ (Mt 19:14) All people, like Jesus himself, are called especially to love and care for children, protecting them from anyone who would harm or abuse them. It is recognised that students are harmed, or could be at risk of harm, from many sources, including self-harm.

Student protection and well-being are paramount in Catholic schools including Mary MacKillop College. Our commitment to the protection of students is based in our belief that each person is made in the image of God, and our ethos is to provide a safe and supportive environment for all. All students have the right to expect that the College will always act to protect them from any kind of harm.

### Interventions to be used in relation to:

- A reasonable suspicion of sexual abuse or likely sexual abuse of a student by another person
- A reasonable suspicion of harm or likely harm to a student from any source
- A complaint or reasonable suspicion of inappropriate behaviour towards a student by a person who is a staff member.

## Student Protection Processes

Under BCE Policy all staff need to be trained in Student Protection Processes, which are aligned with the Child Protection Act. To keep updated, training will occur for all employees on an annual basis.

In general terms the process for responding to and reporting student protection concerns is as follows: **Identify** student protection concerns through recognising the signs of abuse and harm, or through disclosures or receipt of information; **Seek guidance and support** – if necessary, confer with the Principal or appropriate colleagues, or use resources such as the Queensland Child Protection Guide to establish whether a ‘reasonable suspicion’ has been formed; Where a reasonable suspicion of abuse, harm or inappropriate behaviour is formed – **report the concerns** according to the specific processes outlined in this document; and Remain focussed on the **support needs of the student** and liaise with the Principal around any planning or actions that are required

If you have a student protection issue (i.e. self-harm, harm or likely harm of a sexual, physical, neglectful or psychological/emotional nature) please report immediately to one of the Student Protection Contacts published on the website, in the College diary and in the MacKillop News each fortnight.

More information is available on the College website or through [BCE Student Protection Processes](#).