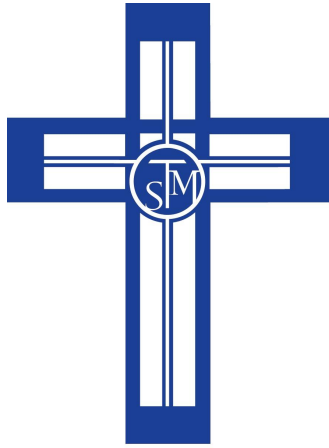




Catholic Schools Child Safe Schools



*With God First,
We Will Live, Learn
and Thrive*

St Thomas More School Alfredton

CHILD SAFETY POLICY

Student Edition

Date of policy: May 2019

Date of last major review: June 2019

Date of next major review: May 2021

Based on The St Thomas More Child Staff policy, exemplar documents and CEO guidelines.



Our

Mission:

St Thomas More Catholic School is a child-safe school that offers an educational foundation, which is united in faith and committed to developing the whole person to live, learn and thrive in God's love.

*With God First
We Will Live, Learn
and Thrive*





Introduction:

At St Thomas More School our most important responsibility is to make sure that every student is cared for and feels safe.

Everyone has the right to be protected from unsafe behaviours.

No one should behave in a way that makes anyone feel unsafe or afraid, including family members, people at school or people in the community.

St Thomas More School staff help and look after all students so that they can live, learn and thrive.

Purpose:

The staff at St Thomas More School are committed to keeping children safe and feeling cared for.



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how we will do this in our school's 'Child Safety Policy'. Everyone who works and volunteers in our school has read and understood their responsibilities.

This student edition of our 'Child Safety Policy' explains to our students how our school will keep them feeling safe and cared for.

Beliefs:

The most important job at St Thomas More School is to keep our students feeling safe and cared for.

Everyone at our school is encouraged to speak up if they are worried or feel unsafe at any time.

Students are given opportunities to share any concerns.



Staff,
students
and

families work together to keep students safe.

The staff at St Thomas More School know what to do if a student says that they feel unsafe.

Our commitment:

All students attending St Thomas More School have the right to feel safe and feel cared for.

St Thomas More School does not tolerate bullying or any kind of unsafe behaviour.

The staff will make sure that all of our students are made aware of this and know that staff are there to help them.



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ns of our school staff

St Thomas More School has a 'Code of Conduct' that clearly outlines how staff must behave.

At St Thomas More School we expect our staff, priests, replacement teachers, visitors, volunteers and trade workers to make sure the students are safe at all times.

All these members of our school community have promised to work together to keep children safe and have agreed to act if they are worried about any child.

A copy of the 'Code of Conduct' is available on the school website, as well as at the school office. All persons working and volunteering at St Thomas More School must read, sign and follow these behaviour expectations.



Student Involvement

Students at St Thomas More School are taught that they have the right to be and feel safe.

Class programs such as 'Rights, Responsibilities and Respectful Relationships' (RRRR) and activities such as circle time, help students understand these rights.

Students at St Thomas More School learn how to play, work and interact safely.

Posters in the school remind students about what they should do if they feel unsafe.



Students
have
a
voice

to speak up and tell staff if they are unsafe or feel unsafe. The staff at St Thomas More School know what to do if a student says that they feel unsafe.

Hiring Staff and Staff Training.

Every one working or volunteering at St Thomas More School must make sure that students are safe and feel safe.



Before
employing
staff

and helpers, St Thomas More School checks to make sure that each person is suitable to work with children.

These checks include making sure:

- they can work with children
- there is no police criminal record
- the Code of Conduct is signed and followed
- we speak with people who have worked with them before
- new people know how things work at St Thomas More School
- new people know how to keep students safe at St Thomas More School.



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Professional Learning for School Staff

St Thomas More School staff regularly spend time working together to make sure they know the best ways to keep students safe.

Staff are regularly involved in meetings at school or away from school which helps them learn about child safety.

Time at every staff meeting is set aside to talk about the students and the best ways to keep them safe.



Risk Management

St Thomas More School works hard to make sure all students feel safe and are cared for.

The school staff looks for and record any problems that are unsafe and then works to fix them straight away.

Everyone at St Thomas More School is encouraged to speak up if they see or hear of a problem.

Staff investigate new activities to make sure students will continue to be safe.



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St Thomas More School encourages the whole community to look out for all students.

Posters are displayed in the school teaching people about the best ways to keep students safe.

Our school office keeps records about all of the people who work and volunteer at our school to make sure that they are suitable to be with children and know how to best keep them safe.



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ion

St Thomas More School staff and the Student Leadership Group have helped to create this student edition of our Child Safety Policy.

Teachers spend time reading and explaining this policy to their students.

A copy of this policy is in the school office and in each classroom.

The school community is made aware of this policy through the school newsletter and can also locate this on our school website.

Review

This policy will be reviewed every two years and will incorporate suggestions from teachers, other staff, volunteers and the wider community.



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Supporting Documents

This child-friendly policy is based on the St Thomas More School Child Safety Policy, a copy of which can be found at the St Thomas More School office or on our [web](#) page.

<http://www.stmalfredton.catholic.edu.au/>

