



Statement of Commitment

Ballarat Primary School (Dana Street) is committed to ensuring the safety, health and wellbeing of all children. This will be the primary focus of our care and decision-making.

Ballarat Primary School (Dana Street) has zero tolerance for child abuse.

Ballarat Primary School (Dana Street) is committed to providing a child safe environment where children and young people are safe and feel safe, and their voices are heard about decisions that affect their lives. Particular attention will be paid to the cultural safety of Aboriginal children and children from culturally and/or linguistically diverse backgrounds, as well as the safety of children with a disability.

Every person involved in Ballarat Primary School (Dana Street) has a responsibility to understand the important and specific role he/she plays individually and collectively to ensure that the safety, health and wellbeing safety of all children is at the forefront of all they do and every decision they make.

In our planning, decision-making and operations at Ballarat Primary School (Dana Street) will:

1. Take a preventative, proactive and participatory approach to child safety;
2. Value and empower children to participate in decisions which affect their lives;
3. Foster a culture of openness that supports all persons to safely disclose risks of harm to children;
4. Respect diversity in cultures and child rearing practices while keeping child safety paramount;
5. Provide written guidance on appropriate conduct and behaviour towards children;
6. Employ only high quality staff to work with our children and all volunteers must have an update Working with Children Check and complete our Parent Helpers Program;
7. All staff are required to undergo relevant and up to date professional development, focused on child safety
8. Ensure children know who to talk with if they are worried or are feeling unsafe, and that they are comfortable and encouraged to raise such issues e.g. talking with family welfare worker or student wellbeing coordinator
9. Report suspected abuse, neglect or mistreatment promptly to the appropriate authorities;
10. Share information appropriately and lawfully with other organisations where the safety and wellbeing of children is at risk; and
11. Value the input of and communicate regularly with families and carers.

This statement is available for all community members of Ballarat Primary School (Dana Street) on the school website and is included within our enrolment package.