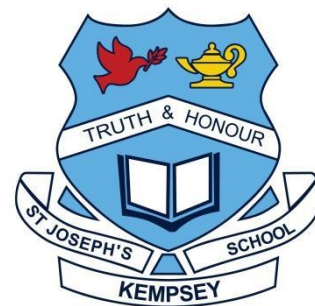


CHILD PROTECTION POLICY



RATIONALE:

- All children have a right to feel and be safe. Teachers with reasonable grounds for suspecting that a student has, or will be, exposed to injury through maltreatment have moral and possibly legal responsibilities to report the situation to an officer of the appropriate authority.

AIMS:

- To ensure that children's rights to be safe are maintained and that each child is protected against injury resulting from all forms of abuse.

IMPLEMENTATION:

- Principals have a duty by to report suspicion on reasonable grounds of injury to students through maltreatment.
- Teachers who suspect child abuse will initially report to, and discuss the matter with, the principal.
- The principal may choose to investigate the matter further, including a discussion with the child involved.
- The principal may contact the Department of Children's Community Services to discuss the case in anonymous terms with an officer of the Board to determine whether or not the circumstances warrant a report.
- The principal may then choose to formally report the matter to the Department of Children's Community Services.
- All details will be fully documented and retained.
- Confidentiality will be maintained at all times.
- Subsequent concerns about the same child will also be brought to the attention of the Principal.
- Representatives of the Department of Children's Community Services will be contacted by the principal with the view to providing staff with professional development relating to the signs and reporting of child abuse.

EVALUATION:

- This policy will be reviewed as part of the school's three year review cycle.

Verified by the School Leadership Team in February, 2016