



Warracknabeal Secondary College

WORKING WITH CHILDREN CHECKS POLICY

Rationale:

As of the 1st of January 2008, all schools are required to comply with the Working with Children Act 2005, and ensure that any person unsuitable to be involved in 'child related work' does not do so.

Aims:

- To ensure children under our care are protected from being exposed to inappropriate people.
- To ensure all people engaged in 'child related work' with our students and who are required to have Working with Children Checks, do so.
- To ensure that our school complies with the relevant Acts and laws.
- To provide an environment that is safe.

Implementation:

- As of 1 January 2008, all workers or volunteers related in 'child related work' must undergo Working with Children checks prior to commencing work.
- You are required to hold a Working with Children card if you are performing 'child related work.' This includes if you work or volunteer at a school or school related activities and you do not qualify for an exemption.
- As of 1 August, 2017, all workers or volunteers performing 'child related work' are required to hold a Working with Children card, whether directly supervised or not.
- 'Child related work' could involve direct contact that is face-to-face (physical), oral, written or electronic communication.
- All teaching staff members are registered with the Victorian Institute of Teaching and undergo ongoing monitoring that satisfies Working with Children Check requirements, and are therefore exempt.
- All Education Support staff members have an Employee Working with Children Check as a condition of their employment.
- A parent who volunteers in relation to an activity in which his or her child ordinarily participates (eg: classroom reading) is also exempt. If the same parent volunteers in a class or activity that his or her child does not ordinarily participate in, then a check is required.
- Students of WSC who are 18 or 19 do not need a WWCC if the activity is organised by the school
- Students 18 and over will require a WWCC to enroll if they have not been enrolled in a school for more than two years
- School Council does not pay for Working with Children Checks, which are free for volunteers.
- All people required to have Working with Children Checks are issued a WWCC card, which School Council expects them to present upon request when working or volunteering at the school or during school related activities.
- School Council will maintain a record of volunteers with up to date WWC Checks.
- School Council requires that all volunteers directly involved in school camps, excursions, sleepovers, teaching of swimming lessons, transport of students without staff member's present, extra-curricular activities such as school sporting teams etc. all have Working With Children Checks.
- School Council will consider other activities on a case-by-case basis.

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

Ratified by School Council

Date:

21/8/17

Signed:

Principal:

School Council President: