



PURPOSE:

Children often do not report abuse because they:

- feel uncomfortable doing so;
- do not recognise behaviours as abuse or grooming; and
- do not know who to raise their concerns or make a report.

Ballarat Grammar recognises that in order to achieve a child safe environment at the School which meets students' intellectual, physical, social, emotional and moral needs, students need to be involved in the creation and maintenance of such an environment.

It is our policy that we have simple and accessible processes in place to assist children (including those from diverse cultural backgrounds and those with a disability) to develop appropriate knowledge and skills to identify and communicate when they do not feel safe.

It is our policy that relevant staff members are trained on methods of empowering children and encouraging their participation.

This is done through various work systems, practices, policies and procedures. This includes:

1. Pastoral Care – Child Protection
2. Education and its Implementation
3. Students with a Disability
4. Culturally and Linguistically Diverse Students

Part 1- Review

1. Ballarat Grammar is committed to the continuous review and improvement of all its operations, including this policy.
2. It is the responsibility of the Senior Child Protection Officer to regularly monitor and review the effectiveness of *the Participation and Empowerment of Children Policy* to ensure it is working in practice and revise the policy when required.

Part 2- Breach of Policy

1. All staff employed by Ballarat Grammar are expected to enact all policies in support of student and community learning, health, safety and wellbeing.