



PERTH
MONTESSORI
—

CHILD PROTECTION POLICY

This policy details the responsibilities and the actions required of staff to protect children in circumstances where abuse is suspected or when allegations of child abuse are made against staff, children or other people in the community.

BOARD APPROVAL

Date: 18 Jun 2020

Signed by Board Chair:

Name of Board Chair: Neil Major

Next Revision Date: Jun 2022

CONTENTS

1.	POLICY STATEMENT	1
2.	BACKGROUND	1
3.	SCOPE	1
4.	RESPONSIBILITY	1
5.	RELATED DOCUMENTS	2

1. POLICY STATEMENT

- 1.1. All staff employed by Perth Montessori are responsible for the care, safety and protection of children. This responsibility extends to the identification and timely response to concerns regarding the possible sexual, physical, psychological and emotional abuse or neglect of a child.

2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1. All children have the right to care and protection from harm. Perth Montessori is committed to providing a child safe learning environment by incorporating preventative, proactive and participatory care and protection practices for all involved in the School.
- 2.2. This document explains the actions to be taken by staff to protect children in circumstances where abuse is suspected or when allegations of child abuse are made against staff, children or other people in the community. Procedures for reporting sexual abuse are made in accordance with the Children and community Services Act 2004 and the Children and community Services Amendment (Reporting Sexual Abuse of Children) Act 2008.
- 2.3. All staff have an important role in the identification and reporting of child abuse and the provision of support and assistance to children who have been abused.

3. SCOPE

- 3.1. This policy applies to all staff employed by Perth Montessori.

4. RESPONSIBILITY

- 4.1. Perth Montessori implements the National Child Safe Organisation Principles through its Child Safe Organisation Framework, underpinning all PM policies, procedures, practices and strategies to ensure the provision of an environment where children feel respected, valued, supported and safe from harm.
- 4.2. Implementation of the policy is the responsibility of all employees.
- 4.3. Compliance monitoring is the responsibility of line managers.



5. RELATED DOCUMENTS

5.1. Relevant Legislation or Authority:

- 5.1.1. Children and Community Services Act 2004 (WA)
- 5.1.2. Corruption and Crime Commission Act 2003 (WA)
- 5.1.3. Criminal Code Act (Amendment: Sexual Offences' Act 1992) (WA)
- 5.1.4. Criminal Code Act (Amendment: Cyber Predators) Bill 2005
- 5.1.5. Criminal Code Act 1995 (Commonwealth)
- 5.1.6. Disability Discrimination Act 1992 (Cth)
- 5.1.7. Disabilities Discrimination Act: Standards for Education 2005 (Cth)
- 5.1.8. Equal Opportunity Act 1984 (WA)
- 5.1.9. School Education Act 1999 (WA)
- 5.1.10. School Education Regulations 2000 (WA)
- 5.1.11. Sex Discrimination Act 1984 (Cth)
- 5.1.12. Working with Children (Criminal Record Checking) Act 2004 (WA)
- 5.1.13. Working with Children (Criminal Record Checking) Regulations 2005 (WA)
- 5.1.14. Teacher Registration Act 2012 (WA)

5.2. Related School Policies:

- 5.2.1. Anti-Bullying Behaviour
- 5.2.2. Attendance
- 5.2.3. Behaviour Management
- 5.2.4. Child Friendly Child Safe
- 5.2.5. Concerns, Complaints & Disputes
- 5.2.6. Critical and Emergency Incidents
- 5.2.7. Digital Technologies
- 5.2.8. Duty of Care
- 5.2.9. Enrolment
- 5.2.10. Excursions
- 5.2.11. Grooming
- 5.2.12. Inclusion and SAER
- 5.2.13. Records Management
- 5.2.14. Staff Code of Conduct
- 5.2.15. Suicidal Behaviours and non-Suicidal Self Injury
- 5.2.16. Suicidal Identification and non-suicidal self-injury
- 5.2.17. Visitors and Intruders on School Premises

REVISION HISTORY

#	Date	Owner	Change
v1.0	21 Jan 2005	Board	Initial drafting and proposal to the Board.
V1.1	10 Jul 20012	Board	Rewritten to include definitions, legislation and responsibilities, as well as new procedures.
v1.2	27 Apr 2015	Nerida Doherty	Reformatted, removal of procedures.
v1.3	01 May 2017	Nerida Doherty	Review and incorporation of Child Safe Organisations WA: Guidelines.
v1.4	13 Jun 2020	Marg Pontin	Amended to ensure policy is in line with audit findings.
v1.5	04 Aug 2022	Andrew Marsh	Reformatted with Perth Montessori template.
V1.6	29 Jan 2023	Sally Alderton	Amended list of related policies to reflect changes since publication.