

Good Samaritan Education

GSE 3.2 also (GSCA 1.8) Child Protection Policy

Policy

Good Samaritan Education (GSE) is committed to the welfare and protection of children. *GSE* believes that the safety and wellbeing of students in *GSE* schools is paramount and that child protection is both a corporate and an individual responsibility. Every person who shares in the work of *GSE* including *GSE* Governing Council, employees, religious, staff of Good Samaritan schools, contractors, parents and volunteers share in the responsibility of taking every precaution to protect the children who attend Good Samaritan schools and to contribute to building a child safe environment.

References

GSCA 1.6	Philosophy of Student Wellbeing
GSCA 1.7 (GSE 3)	Code of Conduct for Student Protection
GSE 3.1	Code of Behaviour – Child Safety

Rationale

The person of each individual human being, in his or her material and spiritual needs, is at the heart of Christ's teaching (The Catholic School on the Threshold of the Third Millennium #9)

Children have the right to be protected from abuse. There are laws in the States in which Good Samaritan schools operate to protect children as well as bring child abusers to justice. The aim of this policy is to prevent the abuse of children in Good Samaritan schools and *GSE* programs through practices that promote child safety.

Scope

This policy applies to *GSE* Members, Company Members, employees, religious, staff of Good Samaritan schools, contractors, parents and volunteers

Consequences

1. A child safe culture where all adults are committed to keeping children safe is promoted
2. A Code of Conduct for Student Protection (GSCA 1.7 & GSE 3) that provides direction when considering activities involving students, both within and outside of *GSE* schools.
3. An open and aware environment where concerns for the safety and wellbeing of a child can be raised and managed in a fair and just manner is created.
4. All *GSE* employees, staff of Good Samaritan schools, volunteers working with children in *GSE* schools or programs are appropriately credentialed, if working in a professional capacity, and have relevant working with children certification according to the legal requirements of the State in which they are working.
5. Each Good Samaritan school has in place policies, protocols and procedures for the reporting and management of complaints and allegations of harm to a student in accordance with the legislation of the State in which the school operates.
6. *GSE* has in place a Code of Behaviour – Child Safety (GSE 3.1) stating the policy and procedures for the reporting and management of complaints and allegations arising in connection with the student programs provided by the *GSE* Mission Team and accessed by students from all Good Samaritan schools.
7. The Governing Council is notified of the referral to a State authority of an allegation of harm to a student by an employee and of the outcome of such a referral.

Review History

GSE 3.2 Version 1.0 October 2015