

STUDENT PROTECTION SCHOOL CONTACTS IN-SERVICE 2008

1. NEW BLUE CARD APPLICATION FORMS:

New laws, effective from 2 June 2008, impact on blue card obligations for employers and applicants. It is now an offence for a disqualified person to apply for a blue card. Background information is provided in these attachments:

- a. *New Obligations for Employers**
- b. *New Obligations for applicants/blue card holders*
- c. *Paid employee blue card application form***
- d. *About the blue card (Commission for Children...)*

ACTION: *Check closely and implement the four dot points under "New Obligations from 2 June 2008" on page 1.

**Part F of Application Forms only need to be completed by the employee in the rare case that the employee resides more than 50kms from the school or has a disability that affects his or her mobility.

2. BLUE CARDS FOR VOLUNTEER PARENTS:

Recently, there have been a number of questions about blue card requirements for volunteer parents. An information sheet is attached:

- a. *Blue cards for volunteer parents*

ACTION: Inform staff and parents of blue card requirements for volunteer parents.

3. COMPLIANCE WITH EMPLOYMENT SCREENING OBLIGATIONS:

On 30 June, 2008 the Director signed a compliance commitment, under the Commission for Children and Young People and Child Guardian Act 2000, that each school in the Diocese has in-place:

- a. A Student Protection Risk Management Strategy (SPRMS); and
- b. An updated and complete Blue Card Register.

QCEC and the Commission will evaluate this compliance process for future years. At present it is not clear what will happen in future years.

In the meantime:

ACTION:

- SPRMS to be reviewed annually at Annual School Visit;
- School blue card register to be kept up to date for paid employees and volunteers;
- School to advise CEO (Carol England) when any blue card application is made; when a receipt of application notice from the Commission is received; and when a blue card is issued.
- Carol England will send a monthly email reminder to Principals and the school administration of any blue cards that have expired or are due to expi

From: Thynne & Macartney Page: 6/6 Date: 17/02/2009 3:41:56 PM

4. CHILD PROTECTION WEEK (7-13 September 2008):

A Promotions Pack for Child Protection Week has been ordered for each school and should arrive in the mail next week. The Pack includes a copy of the TV commercial DVD for Child Protection Week. **View DVD.**

ACTION:

- **Plan activities for Child Protection Week with Principal and staff. Why not include a Children Do Workshop for parents/community – especially in country towns?**
- **Register your event/activity with NAPCAN (the NAPCAN website is a link on the Student Protection website on the CEO Intranet)**

5. DRAFT CODE OF CONDUCT:

A new draft Code of Conduct for staff is attached for your comment and review. The Code of Conduct supersedes the Integrity in Relationships brochure; is required by legislation; and clarifies/affirms the standards of behaviour expected of all employees. All staff will receive in-service on the Code next year. The Code is based on the BCE Code and has received Union approval.

ACTION: Review the attached draft Code of Conduct for staff and forward any comments to your SEO before the end of Term 3 (Friday 19th September 2008).

6. 2009 ALL STAFF STUDENT PROTECTION IN-SERVICE:

Initial Planning Sheet for the 2009 All Staff Student Protection In-service is attached. Arrangements (locations and dates) will be similar to 2007. Topics planned include:

- Understanding the different forms of 'harm'
- How to recognise 'harm'
- Appropriate adult-student relationships – including new Code of Conduct for staff
- Reporting obligations and statutory requirements
- Cybersafety challenges and opportunities

ACTION:

- **Ensure dates for 2009 In-service are in your school calendar.**
- **Feedback/comments on Initial Planning to SEO, if needed.**
- **NB. This is initial planning at this stage. It may be that other arrangements are made eg. in-service package, prepared by CEO, but delivered in each school at a time convenient to the school. Details for 2009 will be finalised and circulated by the end of Term 3, 2008.**

7. UPDATE 5: LEGAL DEFINITION OF BULLYING

8. LOCAL SCENARIOS & DISCUSSION