

- MV9 -



CARINGBAH PUBLIC SCHOOL

Port Hacking Road, Caringbah 2229. Ph: 9524.7217 Fax: 9540.3655
Principal Marcia Vallance

Dear Parents/Carers,

As the welfare of students is a priority for all Caringbah Public School staff, I need to make you aware of the following important information.

You may have heard of recent incidents that have raised your concerns about student safety in the local community. Therefore, it is important that you are aware of some of the measures being taken by the school to support your children.

These strategies include:

1. A child protection program running throughout this term for all grades. This gives students self-protective knowledge and skills for each age group.
2. Police Youth Liaison Officers work with staff and, where necessary, with students, to provide extra advice and training.
3. The school counselor is available to monitor and support students expressing any concerns.
4. The principal is always available to give advice on any matters of concern to you.
5. Schools provide parent information sessions using expert advisors on issues of concern. In Term 2, 2011, there has been a series on anti-bullying including cyber bullying. A child protection session is being planned with other local schools and information about that will be available soon.

As parents, if you have any concerns, please don't hesitate to contact the Child Protection Helpline on 132 111. The Child Protection Helpline is a 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, statewide call centre staffed by professionally qualified caseworkers to receive and screen all reports. This is run by Family and Community Services.

Yours sincerely,

Marcia Vallance
Principal
25 October, 2011