



Cowwarr Primary School

STANDARD 5-RESPONDING TO AND REPORTING SUSPECTED CHILD ABUSE

RATIONALE

As professionals who work with children, staff at Cowwarr Primary School play a vital role in protecting children from abuse by responding and reporting any incidents, disclosures or suspicions. Staff are often best placed to identify signs and behaviours that may indicate that a child has been subject to abuse, or that a school community member or a school staff member may be a perpetrator of abuse.

IMPLEMENTATION

- All staff at Cowwarr Primary School will be reminded of their obligation to report any suspicion of child abuse to a member of the leadership team on a regular basis.
- All staff at Cowwarr Primary School will be reminded of their obligation to report any suspicion that a school community member or a school staff member may be a perpetrator of abuse to a member of the leadership team on a regular basis.
- All staff at Cowwarr Primary School will be required to complete Mandatory Reporting training annually using the DET online module <http://www.elearn.com.au/det/protectingchildren/schools/>
- All staff at Cowwarr Primary School will be provided with the “Four Critical Actions for School” poster as a reference for reporting incidents, disclosures and suspicions of child abuse.
- All staff at Cowwarr Primary School will be required to complete an incident report in the case of a suspected child abuse incident or a suspicion that a school community member or a school staff member may be a perpetrator of abuse.
- All new staff at Cowwarr Primary School will be made aware of their mandatory reporting obligations and Child Safety Standards during their induction at the beginning of the school year (or their contract start date).
- All staff and volunteers (such as parent helpers etc.) must have a current Police Criminal Records Check and/or a Working with Children Check.

REVIEW PERIOD

This policy was last updated on 1 September 2020 and is scheduled for review in September 2024.