

Project Dust

Child Safety Code of Conduct



Help for non-English Speakers:

If you need help to understand this policy, please contact projectdust@hotmail.com.

Purpose

Our Child Safety Code of Conduct sets out the expected behaviour of adults with children and young people in our First Nations dance school.

All Project Dust staff, volunteers, and any other adult involved in child-connected work must follow the Child Safety Code of Conduct.

The Child Safety Code of Conduct applies to all physical and online learning environments used by students. It also applies during or outside of class hours and performances.

Acceptable behaviours

As Project Dust staff, volunteers, and any other member of our community are involved in child-connected work, we are responsible for supporting and promoting the safety of children by:

- upholding Project Dust's commitment to child safety always and adhering to our Child Safety and Wellbeing Policy.
- treating students and families in our dance school community with respect in our learning environments and outside our regular learning environments as part of normal social and community activities and performances.
- listening and responding to the views and concerns of students, particularly if they disclose that they or another child or student has been abused or are worried about their safety or the safety of another child or student.
- promoting the cultural safety, participation and empowerment of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students, students with culturally and/or linguistically diverse backgrounds, students with a disability, international students, students who are unable to live at home and lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex (LGBTIQ+) students.
- ensuring, as far as practicable, that adults are not alone with a student – one-to-one interactions between an adult and a student are to be in an open space or in line of sight of another adult.
- reporting any allegations of child abuse or other child safety concerns to the Director of Project Dust.
- understanding and complying with all reporting and disclosure obligations (including mandatory reporting).
- if child abuse is suspected, ensuring as quickly as possible that the student(s) are safe and protected from harm.

Unacceptable behaviours

As Project Dust, staff, volunteers, and members of our school community are involved in child-connected work we must not:

- ignore or disregard any concerns, suspicions or disclosures of child abuse or harm.
- develop a relationship with any student that could be seen as favouritism or amount to 'grooming' behaviour (for example, by offering gifts).

- display behaviours or engage with students in ways that are not justified by the educational or professional context.
- ignore an adult's overly familiar or inappropriate behaviour towards a student.
- discuss intimate topics or use sexualised language.
- treat a child or student unfavourably because of their disability, age, gender, race, culture, vulnerability, sexuality or ethnicity.
- communicate directly with a student through personal or private contact channels (including by social media, email, instant messaging, texting etc) except where that communication is reasonable in all the circumstances, related to class work or extra-curricular activities or where there is a safety concern or other urgent matter.
- photograph or video a child or student in a dance setting without parent/carer consent.
- consume alcohol or take illicit drugs in the learning environment or at events where students are present.
- have contact with any student outside of school hours except when needed to deliver performance information or professional guidance and parental permission has been sought.

Breaches to the Child Safety Code of Conduct

All Project Dust staff, volunteers, and any other member of the school community involved in child-connected work who breach this Child Safety Code of Conduct may be subject to disciplinary procedures in accordance with their employment agreement or relevant industrial instrument, professional code or terms of engagement.

In instances where a reportable allegation has been made, the matter will be managed in accordance with the relevant governing authority.

All breaches and suspected breaches of the Project Dust Child Safety Code of Conduct must be reported to the Director.

Approval and review

Created date	20/04/2023
Consultation	Consultation period with families 20/04/2023 – 02/05/2023
Endorsed by	Emma Laverty, Director
Endorsed on	02/05/2023
Next review date	02/05/2025