

Child Safe Standards Risk Register

School name:	Spensley Street Primary School	Responsible staff member:	Principal
Date endorsed:	February 2023	Endorsed by:	Principal, School Council
Next review date:	February 2025	File location:	School Website, Staff Handbook

RISK TITLE AND DESCRIPTION	RISK AS:	SESSMENT	EXISTING CONTROLS	CONTROLS ASSESSMENT	NEW TREATMENTS AND WHO IS RESPONSIBLE?	BY WHEN?
	Describe the causes of the child safety risk.	if the child safety risk happens		Taken together, are the controls adequate to reduce the risk and harms to a tolerable level?	If controls need to be strengthened, describe any new controls you will implement to mitigate the child safety risk and who is responsible for the new treatments?	When will this be done?
Child Safe Stand	ard 1 – Aboriginal cultur	al safety				
Culturally safe environments Description: There is a risk that the school fails to establish a culturally	Racism, discrimination and bullying not adequately managed and addressed Ignorance/lack of awareness Curriculum that doesn't include Aboriginal Australians An unwelcoming environment for Aboriginal students Policy development and review is not consultative	likely to trust school staff which may result in them being less likely to report abuse by adults or peers, and make them more	 Our Child Safety and Wellbeing Policy outlines the controls in place to establish a culturally safe environment and is implemented Identify other documents that address Aboriginal cultural safety and include these here, such as your: Reconciliation Action Plan Student Wellbeing and Engagement Policy Bullying Prevention Policy Inclusion and Diversity Policy 	Yes	school may take using the	Ongoing throughout 2023

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and students are respected and valued Risk type: Situational, Organisational		peers and make them more vulnerable to harm • Physical and psychological harm as a result of child abuse	Aboriginal Learning, Wellbeing and Safety Action Plan Controls to address racism, discrimination and bullying are outlined in the Healthy Relationships (Bullying Prevention) Policy and the Student Wellbeing and Engagement Policy.			
Child Safe Stand	ard 2 – School leadershi	ip, governance and cultur	e			
Risk Title: Leadership, governance and culture Description: There is a risk that child safety and wellbeing is not embedded in the school's leadership, governance and culture Risk type: Organisational, Propensity	 Child safety is not prioritised Decision-making power concentrated in one individual Unclear accountabilities Staff and volunteers are unaware of the school's expectations relating to their conduct and role in supporting child safety and wellbeing Culture of secret keeping Poor management of conflicts of interest Lack of leadership on child safety Poor understanding of the foreseeable risks relating to child abuse Poor understanding of recordkeeping and information management Poor child safety messaging 	 Increased risk of child abuse occurring, remaining undetected and not being responded to appropriately because the school does not have a culture of child safety and reporting of child safety incidents or concerns Increased risk of child abuse occurring, remaining undetected and not being responded to appropriately because staff and volunteer roles and responsibilities are not clear Poor practices and understanding of information sharing obligations may result in staff or volunteers not sharing important information to reduce the risk of child abuse or conversely, sharing sensitive information inappropriately contributing to further harm. Poor records and record-keeping practice can contribute to delays or failures to identify and respond to child safety risks and incidents and 	 Our Child Safety and Wellbeing Policy outlines the controls in place to ensure a child safe culture is embedded across the school and is implemented Our Child Safety Code of Conduct is adopted and actively enforced by school leadership. Inconsistent staff, contractor or volunteer conduct is swiftly addressed. Our Child Safety and Wellbeing Policy and Code of Conduct are publicly available and promoted in the school community This risk register is reviewed annually and after any significant child safety incident or concern Our Volunteers Policy supports volunteers to understand their obligations on information sharing and recordkeeping PROTECT posters and the Four Critical Actions are displayed around the school Child Safety is regularly on the agenda of School Council meetings Child Safety is on the agenda of every staff briefing Records management obligations are met through adherence to the Records Management - School Records Policy and all staff and relevant volunteers 	Yes	Identify other actions your school may take using the guidance available at PROTECT Child Safe Standard 2 (Principal)	Ongoing

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		can obstruct survivors seeking information about their time at our school. It can also compromise the school's ability to monitor for systemic issues that required changes to policy, procedure or practice. • Physical and psychological harm as a result of child abuse	understand their obligations on information sharing and record keeping through induction, training and support from leadership.			
Child Safe Stand	ard 3 – Children are safe	e, informed and actively p	articipate			
Risk Title: Student empowerment Description: There is a risk that students will not be empowered about their rights, participate in decisions affecting them or be taken seriously Risk type: Vulnerability	 Students don't know how to make a complaint or raise a concern or don't feel confident that they will be listened to Students don't understand their rights Student input in decision making is not supported or valued Student contributions or concerns are not taken seriously Students are not offered sexual abuse prevention education Students are coerced or silenced by adults at the school Lack of friendship or peer support 	 Abuse is more likely to happen if students do not feel supported to participate in decisions that affect them and do not feel like they will be listened to. Failure to empower students with information about their rights, child safety risks, and sexual abuse prevention will increase the risk of abuse going unidentified and unspoken If students do not feel confident or empowered to raise a concern, they will be unwilling to report abuse Lack of friendship or peer support may increase vulnerability to abuse Lack of friendship or peer support increases the risk that the student will not feel confident to discuss concerns with their peers, making it more likely that abuse will go unidentified and unspoken 	 Our Child Safety and Wellbeing Policy outlines the controls in place to support child and student empowerment and is implemented Complaints Policy details how students can raise complaints and concerns and is promoted widely to parents and students Student Wellbeing and Engagement Policy outlines the controls in place to ensure student wellbeing is supported and prioritised Students are provided with age-appropriate sexual abuse prevention programs and relevant related information through Resilience, Rights and Respectful Relationships teaching and learning materials and our Changes program Students are educated about their rights through Classroom Agreements, Student Rights and Responsibilities, Circle Time Friendship and peer support are promoted through explicit Social and Emotional Learning experiences, e.g.Circle Time 	Yes	Identify other actions your school may take using the guidance available at PROTECT Child Safe Standard 3 (Principal)	Ongoing

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		Physical and psychological harm as a result of child abuse				
Child Safe Stand	ard 4 – Family engagem	nent				
Risk Title: Families and community involvement Description: There is a risk that families and communities are not informed, and involved in promoting child safety and wellbeing Risk type: Organisational	Unwelcoming staff Lack of appreciation of the value of community consultation and engagement The school does not offer information to families and communities or avenues to contribute to policies and decisions relating to child safety and wellbeing Lack of staff training, culture or willingness to engage families and communities	 Child safety and wellbeing practices without input from families may result in practices that do not cover all the diverse needs of students, resulting in a risk that students do not feel safe or able to actively participate in school life (see Child Safe Standard 1 and 3) Families and communities not engaged in child safety at the school are less likely to be able to support the school to reduce risk by keeping an eye out for unsafe behaviours and raising concerns. Families cannot help students identify abuse Families do not support students who want to make a complaint If families lack awareness about child safety including risks of child abuse, children may be more vulnerable to being groomed by perpetrators seeking to obtain their trust. Physical and psychological harm as a result of child abuse 	Our Child Safety and Wellbeing Policy outlines the controls in place to engage families and is implemented All child safety and wellbeing policies and procedures are publicly available and promoted in the school community Families and the school community are invited to have a say in the development and review of child safety and wellbeing policies, procedures and practices through the Strategic Outlook committee, Parents and Friends committee, the school bulletin		Identify other actions your school may take using the guidance available at PROTECT Child Safe Standard 4 (Principal)	Ongoing

Child Safe Standard 5 – Equity and diverse needs

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Risk Title: Diversity and equity Description: There is a risk that equity is not effectively upheld, and diverse needs are not respected in policy and practice Risk type: Vulnerability	Diverse cohorts have not been identified for targeted support (such as students with disability, students who identify as lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, intersex and queer (LGBTIQ+), students in out of home care, international students and students who are culturally and linguistically diverse) Diverse cohorts not supported adequately Diverse cohorts feel unwelcome Lack of staff training on diversity and supporting and responding to vulnerable students Lack of respectful culture Incidents of discrimination or humiliation are not effectively addressed and managed	 Diverse cohorts who do not feel safe or who are not adequately supported for their diverse and specific needs are more at risk of abuse and harm and will be less able or willing to report concerns. Experiencing discrimination can increase a child's vulnerability to abuse and harm and can also mean they are less likely to ask for help or speak up if they have a concern Physical and psychological harm as a result of child abuse 	 Our Child Safety and Wellbeing Policy outlines the controls in place to support equity and diverse needs and is implemented Student Wellbeing and Engagement Policy outlines how the school pays particular attention to the needs of students with disability, students from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds, students who are unable to live at home, international students, and lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, intersex and queer (LGBTIQ+) students Child safety information, support and complaints processes are culturally safe, accessible and easy to understand Other documents that address diversity and equity include: Healthy Relationships Policy (addresses Bullying) Inclusion and Diversity Policy Implement: Resilience, Rights and Respectful Relationships and Building Respectful Relationships teaching and learning materials Respectful Relationships whole school approach 	Yes	Identify other actions your school may take using the guidance available at PROTECT Child Safe Standard 5 (Principal)	Ongoing Annual Days such as IDAHOBIT day are celebrated
Child Safe Stand	ard 6 – Suitable staff an	d volunteers				
staff (including contractors engaged by the school in child-related work)	 Poor recruitment and pre-employment screening processes Provision of false information during recruitment Poor management of conflicts of interest 	school's commitment to child safety during recruitment	Our Child Safety and Wellbeing Policy outlines the controls in place: o for child safe recruitment and screening practices for staff. o to ensure staff are provided with an appropriate induction in the school's child safety policies and practices.	Yes	Identify other actions your school may take using the guidance available at PROTECT Child Safe Standard 6 (Principal)	Ongoing as needed

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suitable to work with children or effectively supported to uphold child safety and wellbeing values in practice Risk type: Organisational, Propensity	Insufficient induction on commencement of working at school Inappropriate behaviour by other adults is not called out due to lack of empowerment or awareness of behaviours of concern Insufficient promotion of the school's commitment to child safety Lack of child safety culture Insufficient supervision Performance management does not focus on or address concerns relating to child safety and wellbeing	reporting concerns relating to staff conduct, and where	child safety and wellbeing • All actions and strategies outlined in our Child Safety and Wellbeing Policy are implemented			
Risk Title: Suitable Volunteers Description: There is a risk that volunteers are	Screening processes lack sufficient strength to reveal histories and behaviours of concern	Insufficient promotion of the school's commitment to child safety may fail to deter potential predators from volunteering at the school	Volunteer Policy outlines the controls in place to ensure volunteers are suitable to work with children including screening, induction, and ongoing management and supervision	Yes	• Identify other actions your school may take using the guidance available at PROTECT Child Safe Standard 6 (Principal)	Ongoing as needed

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not suitable to work with children or effectively supported to uphold child safety and wellbeing values in practice Risk type: Organisational, Propensity	Systems, processes, policies and culture do not demonstrate sufficient strength and transparency to deter potential perpetrators from attempting predatory behaviours Conflict of interest Lack of child safety culture Insufficient induction and training Insufficient supervision	 History and behaviours of concern relating to suitability to work with children are not identified resulting in increased risk of child abuse Insufficient induction results in the increased risk that volunteers do not understand their role and responsibilities in promoting and supporting child safety resulting in increased risk of harm. Insufficient supervision results in increased risk of child abuse and harm to students Inadequate steps to address concerning behaviour may result in increased risk of harm (for example removing volunteer from duties or otherwise ensuring the volunteer does not demonstrate further behaviours of concern) Physical and psychological harm as a result of child abuse 	Volunteers engaged to help with excursions, school productions, school sports or camps where staff supervision may not always be present, and volunteers who are not parents/carers of students will be asked to undertake additional screening processes including proof of identity (where this has not already been established), and references addressing suitability for			
Child Safe Standar	rd 7 – complaints processe	es .				
Risk Title: Complaints processes Description: There is a risk that processes for complaints and concerns are not child focused Risk type:	Students and parents/carers are uncertain about how to raise a complaint or concern because information is not accessible or easily understood Processes do not support students, parents and carers to make complaints or raise concerns	 Failure to ensure there is accessible, culturally safe and easily understood information on how to raise a complaint or concern increases the risk of students, parents and carers not reporting behaviours of concern or abuse Students may be unwilling to report behaviours of concern or 	 Complaints Policy outlines the controls in place to ensure students are provided with accessible, culturally safe and easily understood information on raising a complaint or concern Child Safety Responding and Reporting Obligations Policy and Procedures outlines the procedures for responding to complaints or concerns relating to child abuse 	Yes	Identify other actions your school may take using the guidance available at PROTECT Child Safe Standard 7 (Principal)	Ongoing

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Organisational, Vulnerability	Complaints processes or responsible staff do not make students feel safe or supported to report Student input in decision making is not valued Student, parent and carer concerns/complaints are not taken seriously Inadequate response to complaints or concerns relating to child abuse	abuse if they feel they will not be taken seriously or if they do not feel safe to report • Failure to have a clear process for responding to complaints and concerns about child abuse may result in inappropriate or insufficient action being taken resulting in continued or further harm to the child and other children • Physical and psychological harm as a result of child abuse	 The Complaints Policy and Child Safety Responding and Reporting Obligations Policy and Procedures are publicly available on the school website The Complaints Policy and Child Safety Responding and Reporting Obligations Policy and Procedures are implemented by all relevant staff Our Child Safety and Wellbeing Policy sets out all recordkeeping, privacy and information sharing obligations that must be met when responding to complaints and concerns. All complaints and concerns are managed in accordance with employment law obligations and our school seeks advice from Employee Conduct Branch and Legal Division when dealing with complaints and concerns relating to child abuse by a member/former member of staff or school council employee or contractor 			
Child Safe Standar	rd 8 – Child safety knowle	dge, skills and awareness				
Risk Title: Knowledge, skills and awareness Description: There is a risk that staff and volunteers are not equipped with the knowledge, skills and awareness to keep children and students safe through ongoing education and training Risk type:	 Child safety and wellbeing training not provided to staff and school council annually Child safety and wellbeing training is not refreshed or updated where policy, practice or law has changed Volunteers are not required to undertake child safety training that is appropriate to the nature of their role Training does not cover all necessary topics Training is poorly facilitated 	risks including inappropriate behaviour and signs of harm resulting in increased risk of failing to protect children from child abuse, and underreporting of child safety incidents to relevant staff and	 Our Child Safety and Wellbeing Policy outlines the controls in place to ensure school council and school staff receive appropriate annual guidance and training on child safety and is implemented Our Volunteers policy and CHild Safety Induction Pack - Volunteers provides information on training for volunteers. Volunteers that are engaged to help with camps are provided with child safety training that is appropriate to the activity and the volunteer's role. 	Yes	Identify other actions your school may take using the guidance available at PROTECT Child Safe Standard 8 (Principal)	Ongoing

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Organisational	Also refer to Child Safe Standard 6 risks above	they will not be appropriately implemented by staff and volunteers and an increased risk to students of child abuse occurring and of continuing to occur undetected. • Physical and psychological harm as a result of child abuse				
Child Safe Standa	rd 9 – Physical and online	environments				
Risk Title: School physical environment Description: There is a risk the school's child safety policies, procedures and practices do not adequately address and manage the risk of abuse and harm in the school's physical environment Risk type: Situational		 There is an increased risk of child abuse occurring on school grounds or buildings if policies, procedures and practices fail to identify and manage areas of risk in the school's physical environment Physical and psychological harm as a result of child abuse 	 Yard Duty and Supervision Policy outlines supervision processes and requirements with a focus on child safety Yard duty staff are trained to actively patrol the school grounds, paying particular attention to secluded areas that have been identified as high risk including behind Area 1 towards the front fence, and the area near the back gate Child safety and wellbeing policies, procedures and practices are in place to enable staff and volunteers to identify and mitigate risks in the physical school environment without compromising a child or student's right to privacy, access to information, social connections and learning opportunities, including our Child Safety and Wellbeing Policy and Child Safety Code of Conduct School staff are required to do their yard duty in the specified zones (see Yard Duty policy) and are expected to be on time for their yard duty times Garden sheds and store cupboards are locked unless in use, with controlled access to keys School grounds are well lit for after school activities 	Yes	Identify other actions your school may take using the guidance available at PROTECT Child Safe Standard 9 (Principal)	Ongoing

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			Students are required to go to the bathroom with another student during class time Toilets and changing rooms are located in a central area of the school and the entrance and exit has good visibility from other areas of the school]			
Risk Title: Online environment Description: There is a risk the school's child safety policies, procedures and practices do not adequately address and manage the risk of abuse and harm in the school's online environment Risk type: Situational	 Child safety risks in the school's online environment are not identified and appropriately managed. Students are not provided with education about online risks and appropriate online behaviours. Online safety measures fail to adapt to emerging technologies and child safety risks 	There is an increased risk of child abuse occurring if policies, procedures and practices fail to identify and manage areas of risk in the school's online environment – particularly risks relating to grooming and further risk of abuse if the grooming goes undetected. Physical and psychological harm as a result of child abuse	 Digital Learning Policy outlines the controls in place for online conduct and online safety and is implemented Acceptable Use Agreements are in place and enforced Child safety and wellbeing policies, procedures and practices are in place to enable staff and volunteers to identify and mitigate risks in the online school environment without compromising a child or student's right to privacy, access to information, social connections and learning opportunities, including our Child Safety and Wellbeing Policy and Child Safety Code of Conduct Staff undertake a privacy impact assessment for apps and other platforms in use by the school which includes the risk of access to children or personal information by people external to the school. Safe use of online environments is part of our Changes program and is addressed in Circle Time sessions, ensuring students know what to do if something online makes them feel unsafe 		Identify other actions your school may take using the guidance available at PROTECT Child Safe Standard 9 (Principal)	
Risk Title: Off-site school activities and use of third-party providers	School staff fail to identify and manage risks of child abuse occurring during off-site school activities	There is an increased risk of child abuse occurring if policies, procedures and practices fail to identify and manage areas of risk for off-site school activities	Our school complies with relevant policies with respect to the following activities, including policy relating to child safety and wellbeing:	Yes/No	Identify other actions the school may take using the guidance available at PROTECT Child Safe Standard 9 (Principal)	As needed

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Description: There is a risk that the school's child safety policies, procedures and practices do not adequately address and manage the risk of abuse at school activities off-site and/or school activities involving third party providers. Risk type: Situational, Organisational, Propensity, Vulnerability	School staff fail to identify and manage risks of child abuse by third-party providers engaged by the school	and school activities that involve third party providers. • Physical and psychological harm as a result of child abuse	Government schools – [update the following list of DET policies relevant to your school's activities] Excursions NDIS Funded Therapy in Schools Work Experience Procurement Structured Workplace Learning School Community Work For others, see the Policy and Advisory Library All third party providers must provide the school with a 'Request for private therapists to deliver services at school' form. This will enable the principal to check suitability of the provider and availability of school spaces For off-site school activities and school activities engaging a third-party provider, we identify and assess the risks of child abuse that are specific to that activity and ensure appropriate controls are in place. This includes activities such as: chess, yoga and Year 6 Leadership Day			
Child Safe Standar	rd 10 – Review of child saf	ety practices				
Risk Title: Review and improvement Description: There is a risk that the implementation of the Child Safe Standards is not regularly reviewed and improved	 Failure to regularly review child safety policies, procedures and practices (every 2 years) or following any significant child safety incident Failure to use analysis of complaints, concerns and safety incidents to inform possible improvements to 	 Child safety policy, procedures and practices may become out of date with any new laws or guidance on good practice, compromising the school's ability to protect students from child abuse and to respond appropriately to complaints and concerns. Child safety policy, procedures and practices may no longer 	 A register of the school's policies relating to the child safe standards, including approvers and review cycles is used to support staff to maintain and update our policies Working groups (Wellbeing Committee and OHS committee led by the child safety champions) are established to review child safety policies and procedures 	Yes	Identify other actions the school may take using the guidance available at PROTECT Child Safe Standard 10 (Principal)	Ongoing

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Risk type: Organisational	child safety policies, procedures and practices • Failure to inform families and communities of the outcome of reviews of child safety policies, procedures and practices	meet the needs of the local school community compromising the school's ability to protect students from child abuse and to respond appropriately to complaints and concerns. • Child safety policy, procedures and practices are not improved as a result of analysis of past complaints, concerns and safety incidents, reducing the school's ability to protect students from child abuse and to respond appropriately to complaints and concerns. • Physical and psychological harm as a result of child abuse	 We determine the causes of child safety incidents and monitor for repeat issues or systemic failures, updating any child safety policy, procedure or practice where gaps or improvements are identified We have a log of complaints and concerns to allow us to monitor areas for improvement in our child safety policies, procedures and practices. We inform families through our school's newsletter when child safety and wellbeing policies are being reviewed and ensure they are invited to provide feedback 			
Risk Title: Policies and procedures Description: There is a risk that policies and procedures do not effectively document how the organisation	Staff and relevant volunteers are not provided with an adequate induction or ongoing training and are not properly supported to implement the policies and procedures due to lack of modelling and support from	If child safety policy and procedures fail to address all aspects of the Child Safe Standards it will result in gaps in protection of children and increased risk relating to child abuse If child safety policies and procedures are not effectively documented or are difficult to understand it may result in staff (particularly new staff) being unaware of their child safety obligations, roles and responsibilities increasing the risk of child abuse If child safety policies and procedures are not informed	 Our suite of child safety and wellbeing policies and procedures address all aspects of the Child Safe Standards Our staff and relevant volunteers are inducted and trained on our child safety and wellbeing policies, procedures and practices and are supported to implement them Our school leaders champion and model our child safety policies, procedures and practices and address any performance concerns relating to staff conduct or implementation Our Child Safety Champion regularly reviews PROTECT guidance and other relevant policies to ensure our own local child safety policies, procedures and 	Yes	Identify other actions your school may take using the guidance available at PROTECT Child Safe Standard 11 (Principal)	Ongoing

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	Policies and procedures are difficult to understand	by best practice or family and community engagement it may result in compromised ability to protect children from child abuse. • Failure to induct, train and support staff and relevant volunteers on implementation of child safety policies and procedures increases the risk of child abuse • Physical and psychological harm as a result of child abuse	practices are informed by best practice and updated where required.			