

CHILD PROTECTION POLICY STATEMENT

This Child Protection Policy (CPP) applies to ALL staff, priests, brothers, the board of governors, volunteers, specialist coaches, students or anyone working on behalf of St. George's College and Hartmann House.

The purpose of this policy is:

- To protect ALL children, young people and vulnerable adults who receive our services or are associated with us. This includes the children of adults who use our services and those who work on our behalf, or with us or for us.
- To provide staff and volunteers with the overarching principles that guide our approach to child protection.

As schools we believe that a child or young person and vulnerable adults should never experience abuse of any kind. We have a responsibility to promote the welfare of all children and vulnerable people and to keep them safe. We are committed to principles and practices that protect them.

We recognise that:

- All human life is sacred and any abuse comes into direct conflict with this principle.
- The welfare of the child/young person is paramount.
- All children, regardless of age, disability, gender, racial heritage, religious belief, or identity, have the right to equal protection from all types of harm or abuse.
- We are committed to working in partnership with children, young people, their parents, caregivers and other agencies to promote young people's welfare.

We will seek to keep children and young people safe by:

- Raising awareness of their rights, valuing them, listening to and respecting them.
- Adopting child protection practices through procedures and a code of conduct for staff and volunteers.
- Providing effective management for staff and volunteers through supervision, support and training, and capacity building for all working with children.
- Recruiting staff and volunteers safely, ensuring all necessary checks are made.
- Sharing information about child protection and good practice with children, parents, staff and volunteers.
- Sharing concerns with agencies who need to know, and involving parents and children appropriately.
- Reporting all abuse to relevant authorities within 24 hours.
- We are committed to reviewing our policy and good practice annually.

