



THE PENINSULA SCHOOL

Reporting a Child Abuse Concern

Rationale for Reporting a Child Abuse Concern

Child abuse situations can be very complex, not only from the perspective of ascertaining whether abuse has occurred but also in understanding what steps to take to protect a child.

'Child Abuse' includes:

- sexual offences;
- grooming;
- physical violence;
- serious emotional or psychological harm;
- serious neglect; and
- family violence, or exposure to family violence.

It is important to remember at all times that the safety and welfare of the child are paramount.

Therefore, if you have a concern that a child may be experiencing abuse, whether or not you have formed a belief on reasonable grounds that the abuse has occurred, you should immediately raise your concerns with one of the **School's Child Protection Officers**. The School's Child Protection Officers will be able to assist you in clarifying your concerns and managing the next steps.

The Peninsula School has appointed the people listed below as the School's Child Protection Officers. Each Child Protection Officer is available to answer any questions that you may have with respect to our Child Protection and Safety Policy and the Child Protection Program.

The School's Child Protection Officers are your first point of contact for reporting child protection issues within the School. They receive special training that allows them to deal with child protection concerns both sensitively and effectively.

Name	Position	Contact No.	Email Address
Peter Ford	Deputy Principal - Student Wellbeing	9788 7718	pford@tps.vic.edu.au
Lyn Bylart	Head of Wellbeing	9788 7823	lbylart@tps.vic.edu.au
Louise Nicholls-Easley	Head of Junior Years	9788 7831	lnichollseasley@tps.vic.edu.au
Muriel Bakker	Head of Middle Years	9788 7723	mbakker@tps.vic.edu.au
Steve Wiltshire	Head of Pre-Senior Year	9788 7776	swiltshire@tps.vic.edu.au
Ross Patterson	Head of Senior Years	9788 7713	rpatterson@tps.vic.edu.au
Wendy Lawson	Head of Heather Reilly House	9788 7807	wlawson@tps.vic.edu.au
Chris Menage	Head of Jaffray House	9788 7687	cmenage@tps.vic.edu.au
Heather Evans	Head of Department of Learning Support and Indigenous Student Coordinator	9788 7791	hevans@tps.vic.edu.au

Please note that reporting the matter to one of our Child Protection Officers does not release you from other legal and regulatory reporting obligations you may have.

Whenever there are concerns that a child is in immediate danger, the Police should be contacted on 000.