



WYNDHAM PRIMARY SCHOOL

Child Protection Policy

Wyndham Primary School Board provides a safe physical and emotional environment for students/ākonga and staff.

Health and Safety, including the emotional safety of students/ākonga and staff, is at the centre of all teaching and learning within Wyndham Primary School. Staff implement procedures which actively and positively support all students/ākonga to demonstrate our school Values.

Purpose

Wyndham Primary School is committed to the prevention of child harm and to the protection of all children.

All staff will be familiar with the process so that they can report signs of harm in line with the Principles of the [Children's Act 2014 No 40 \(as at 28 October 2021\)](#), [Public Act](#) and the [Oranga Tamariki Act 1989 No 24 \(as at 28 October 2021\)](#), [Public Act Contents](#).

Access to the Ministry of Education guide which supports the [Vulnerable Children Act 2014](#) is found here:

<https://www.education.govt.nz/assets/Uploads/VCAPracticalGuide.pdf>

Scope

This Child Protection Policy applies to **all staff employed, contracted to, or people volunteering with**, the Wyndham Primary School students/ākonga.

Staff employed, contracted to, or people volunteering with, Wyndham Primary School have varying levels of contact with children, depending on their role. Staff may have:

- i. Regular, unsupervised access to children – Police Vetting
- ii. Contact with children where other adults are present - negotiable
- iii. Little or no contact with children – no police vetting

All staff are Police Vetted upon employment and every three years after that to maintain safety of all children at Wyndham Primary School.

Objectives and Procedures

1. In line with s15 of the Oranga Tamariki Act 1989, any person in our school who believes that a child or young person has been, or is likely to be, ill-treated, harmed (whether physically, emotionally or sexually), neglected or deprived, or who has concerns about the hauora/wellbeing of a child or young person must follow school processes and report the matter to Oranga Tamariki on 0508326459 or the local police.
2. The Principal will ensure that all staff are able to identify the signs and symptoms of potential harm and neglect and deal with disclosures from students/ākonga and allegations against staff members and are able to take appropriate action in response.
3. The school adheres to our responsibility to maintain confidentiality. Staff may discuss concerns only with the Principal or in their absence, with the Deputy Principal. The Principal will inform the Board's Presiding Member should the matter involve an allegation made against a member of staff. All recorded information is securely documented and stored.
4. The Principal will follow all legal processes for reporting child harm and neglect.

5. The Principal will ensure that there is a robust process in place for the safe recruitment of staff.
6. In response to the [Family Violence Act 2018](#) and the Oranga Tamariki Act 1989 the school will use safe and appropriate information sharing to allow for better coordinated responses to assess and manage family violence risk. safe and appropriate information sharing will ensure everyone working with students/ākong and families/whānau can collaborate in the best interests of the tamariki.

Policy Review

Under the Vulnerable Children Act 2014 Wyndham Primary School is required to review this Child Protection Policy every three years.

The review will be undertaken by the Principal and leadership team and will cover an assessment of the implementation and operation of the Child Protection Policy including:

- the views of staff about the accessibility, relevance and usefulness of the policy
- whether any serious incidents have occurred, and how effective the policy was at responding to them
- to what extent the policy needs updating to reflect best practice.