



St. Anne's Sports Association (SASA)
Child Safety Code of Conduct

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1.0	12 Oct 2023	Corporate Secretary	SASA Committee Members	Original Policy	

Purpose

Our Child Safety Code of Conduct sets out the expected behaviour of adults with children and young people in our SASA sporting association.

All St. Anne's Sports Association (SASA) volunteers, contractors, service providers, Committee members 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 environments used by sporting students. It also applies during or outside of school hours and in other locations provided by the school for student use (for example, soccer matches held at a non St. Anne's College facility).

Acceptable behaviours

As SASA volunteers, contractors, and any other member of our sporting association community involved in child-connected work, we are responsible for supporting and promoting the safety of children by:

- upholding our SASA commitment to child safety at all times and adhering to our Child Safety and Wellbeing Policy.
- treating children and families in our sporting association community with respect in our environment and outside our environment as part of normal social and community activities
- listening and responding to the views and concerns of children, 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 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 relevant statutory authority.
- 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

SASA volunteers, contractors and Committee Members 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 sporting activity
- ignore an adult's overly familiar or inappropriate behaviour towards a child
- 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 sporting commitments or where there is a safety concern or other urgent matter
- photograph or video a child or student in a sporting environment except in accordance with except with consent or where required for duty of care purposes
- consume alcohol or take illicit drugs in the sporting association environment
- have contact with any student outside of sporting commitments except when needed to deliver the updated sporting commitments or professional guidance and parental permission has been sought.

Breaches to the Child Safety Code of Conduct

All SASA staff, volunteers, contractors and any other member of the SASA community involved in child-connected work who breach this Child Safety Code of Conduct may be subject to disciplinary actions as deemed by the SASA Committee Members through a Special Members Meeting.

In instances where a reportable allegation has been made, the matter will be managed in accordance with the relevant statutory authority and may be subject to referral to Victoria Police.

All breaches and suspected breaches of the SASA Child Safety Code of Conduct must be reported to a Committee Member (Chair, Deputy Chair, Secretary or Treasurer).

If the breach or suspected breach relates to a SASA Committee Member, contact one of the other SASA Committee Members and allow the other members to conduct a review and follow the Complaints Handling Policy/Procedure.

Should the entire SASA Committee Members alleged to have committed a breach, Sport Integrity Australia (<https://www.sportintegrity.gov.au/>) should be contacted to remedy the situation.