Child Safe Standards Risk Register template

Guidance for completing this template is available on PROTECT

| School name: | Box Hill High School | Responsible staff member: | Wellbeing Leader, Felicity Shiel-Jones |
|-------------------|----------------------|---------------------------|--|
| Date endorsed: | Term 4 2022 | Endorsed by: | Assistant Principal |
| Next review date: | Term 2 2023 | File location: | U Drive |

| RISK TITLE AND DESCRIPTION | RISK | ASSESSMENT | EXISTING CONTROLS | CONTROLS ASSESSMENT | NEW TREATMENTS AND WHO IS RESPONSIBLE? | BY WHEN |
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| Provide a risk title and short description. | Describe the causes of the child safety risk. | Describe the consequences for children if the child safety risk happens | Describe the existing child safety and wellbeing controls you have in place to mitigate the child safety risk Sample content is provided below | 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 done? |
| Child Safe Standard Risk Title: Culturally safe environments Description: There is a risk that the school fails to establish a culturally safe environment in which the diverse and unique dentities and experiences of Aboriginal children and students are respected and valued Risk type: Situational, Organisational | | Aboriginal students are less likely to trust school staff which may result in them being less likely to report abuse by adults or peers, and make them more vulnerable to harm Aboriginal students do not feel welcome, safe, respected or valued for their diverse and unique identifies which may result in them being less likely to report abuse by adults or peers and make them more vulnerable to harm Physical and psychological harm as a result of child abuse | Our Child Safety Policy outlines the controls in place to establish a culturally safe environment and is implemented Child Safe Standards Action Plan Controls to address racism, discrimination and bullying are outlined in the Bullying Prevention Policy, Inclusion and Diversity Policy and the Student Wellbeing and Engagement Policy. | Yes/No | Begin events and meetings with a Welcome to Country or an Acknowledgement of Country as a standing agenda item. Have group of student's work with KESO to develop BHHS own version of Welcome to Country in Term 4 2022. Fly the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander flags on school grounds. Build schoolwide knowledge of Aboriginal histories, cultures, perspectives, values, skills and attitudes. | Already occurs for formal events. Sta each term every class 2023. |
| Child Safe Standard 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 | 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 | 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 | Our Child Safety 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 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 | Yes/No | Display your commitment to child safety prominently at reception and around the school grounds. Also include the statement in enrolment packages. Nominate one or more child safety champions to lead the school's child safety approach. Assign responsibility to the champions to review and update the Child Safety Risk Register annually. Form a working group with staff and students to support the child. | |
| | Poor understanding of recordkeeping and information management | 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 | displayed around the school Records management obligations are met through adherence to the Records Management - School | | and students to support the child safety champion and promote child safety. (PLC in 2023) | |

Schools must tailor example content to be relevant to the school.

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| | Poor child safety messaging | and incidents and 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 | support from leadership. | | Seek input from students, staff, volunteers, families and the school community. Ask what the school does well, and what can be improved to make them feel safe. Assess if the school has all the policies it needs for effective practice and compliance. Ensure the school uses the relevant Public Record Office Victoria Retention and Disposal Authorities (RDA), including the RDA for Records of Organisational Responses to Child Sexual Abuse Incidents and Allegations to retain records for the correct period. | |
| Child Safe Standard | 3 - Children are safe, inform | ed and actively participate | | | | |
| 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 | 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 | supported and prioritised • Students are provided with age-appropriate sexual abuse prevention programs and relevant related information through BHHS RESPECT Program based on Resilience, Rights and Respectful Relationships teaching and learning materials & | Yes/No | Become a VicSRC Partner School. Provide students with information about complaints processes. Give students a variety of ways to raise concerns. For example: provide an anonymous, year-level student suggestion box distribute regular online surveys display information about the adults who students can talk to if they have a concern. Highlight student views in your school community or publicfacing documents, including quoting students where appropriate. Create opportunities for all student voices by being aware of discriminatory barriers and any overreliance on the input of student leaders. | |

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| | | | | level? | Use the Bully Stoppers survey tool to assess bullying in your school. Establish Student Action Teams to investigate issues of inclusion and exclusion. Use the School's Mental Health Menu to support students in your school. | |
| Risk Title: Families and | 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 | 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 | place to engage families and is implemented • All child safety 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 our school website and newsletters | Yes/No | Create a welcoming environment at school reception so community members and families feel respected, included and safe to come onto school grounds. Organise interpreters and translations to engage families from non-English speaking backgrounds in conversations about the school's child safety strategies. Incorporate child safety questions in parent and carer surveys to measure awareness and confidence in the school's child safety approach and to support ongoing improvement. Remind the school community about the shared roles of parents, carers and school staff in creating a positive environment for learning by promoting the Respectful Behaviours in the School Community Policy. Display the PROTECT poster (PDF, 203KB) in shared areas that are accessible to parents and the community. Make child safety a standing item at school governing authority meetings. | |

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| | | | | level? | Report on the outcomes of relevant reviews to staff and volunteers, community and families and students to show transparency and accountability. | |
| Child Safe Standard | 5 - Equity and diverse needs | 5 | | | | |
| 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 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 If your school has other documents that address diversity and equity include these here, such as: Bullying Prevention Policy Inclusion and Diversity Policy Implemented in RESPECT Program & HPE: Resilience, Rights and Respectful Relationships and Building Respectful Relationships teaching and learning materials Respectful Relationships whole school approach | Yes/No | Ensure complaints policy is uploaded in Mandarin too. | |
| Child Safe Standard | 6 - Suitable staff and volunte | eers | | | | |
| Risk Title: Suitable staff (including contractors engaged by the school in child-related work) Description: There is a risk that staff are not suitable to work with children or effectively supported to uphold child safety and wellbeing values in practice Risk type: Organisational, Propensity | Poor recruitment and preemployment screening processes Provision of false information during recruitment Poor management of conflicts of interest 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 | Insufficient promotion of the school's commitment to child safety during recruitment processes may fail to deter potential predators from seeking employment History and behaviours of concern relating to suitability to work with children are not identified resulting in increased risk of child abuse Conflicts of interests in recruiting staff may increase the risk of other staff not reporting concerns relating to staff conduct, and where concerns are reported or identified, increased risk of them not being responded to in an objective manner with the focus on child safety and wellbeing. Insufficient induction results in the increased risk that staff fail to identify child safety risks and signs of harm and are unable to respond appropriately when they | Our Child Safety Policy outlines the controls in place: for child safe recruitment and screening practices for staff. to ensure staff are provided with an appropriate induction in the school's child safety policies and practices. to ensure ongoing supervision and management of staff is focused on child safety and wellbeing All actions and strategies outlined in our Child Safety Policy are implemented | Yes/No | Set out standards for child safety performance in staff contracts and state how performance will be assessed. Include child safety considerations in supervision between people managers and individual staff. Communicate regularly with staff and volunteers about the Child Safety and Wellbeing Policy and Code of Conduct in supervision meetings, at staff meetings, in newsletters and staff updates. Include child safety and wellbeing as a regular agenda item for staff meetings at all | |

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| | relating to child safety and wellbeing | do identify risks of harm or when a complaint or concerns is disclosed to them. Insufficient supervision and performance management results in increased risk of child abuse and harm to students Staff do not understand their role and responsibilities in promoting and supporting child safety resulting in increased risk of harm Physical and psychological harm as a result of child abuse | | level? | Include child safety and wellbeing goals in staff professional development plans. Ensure induction pack includes Child Safety Policy and Code of Conduct. | |
| Risk Title: Suitable Volunteers Description: There is a risk that volunteers are not suitable to work with children or effectively supported to uphold child safety and wellbeing values in practice Risk type: Organisational, Propensity | Screening processes lack sufficient strength to reveal histories and behaviours of concern 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 | Insufficient promotion of the school's commitment to child safety may fail to deter potential predators from volunteering at the school 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 | Volunteer Policy outlines the controls in place to ensure volunteers are suitable to work with children including screening, induction, and ongoing management and supervision Volunteers engaged to run afterschool solar car sessions, school production or accompany staff on camps or excursions will be asked to undertake additional screening processes including proof of identity (where this has not already been established), and references addressing suitability for working with children. Volunteers that are working with children or that may have access to students in unsupervised or high-risk settings will always be supervised by a member of school staff Volunteer behaviour that is inconsistent with the school's child safety and wellbeing policies and practices will be addressed by school staff swiftly and with a focus on child safety and wellbeing. | Yes/No | Create Volunteer Pack with Child Safety Policy included alongside the current Code of Conduct. | |
| Child Safe Standard | 7 – complaints processes | | | | | • |
| Risk Title: Complaints processes Description: There is a risk that processes for complaints and concerns are not child focused Risk type: Organisational, Vulnerability | 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 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 | of concern or abuse • Students may be unwilling to report behaviours of concern or 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 | 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 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. | | Make sure it is easy for students, families, staff and volunteers to access and understand the complaints process. Host the school's Complaints Policy on a public-facing website, make physical copies available from the school and include information about how to make a complaint in the school welcome pack. Set out approaches for responding to harm caused to children by other children, including children displaying | |

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| | Inadequate response to complaints or concerns relating to child abuse | | 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 | | potentially harmful sexual behaviours and sexual offending. • Specify the steps that need to be taken to make sure the process is fair for all people involved in a complaint. Create flow chart. | |
| Child Safe Standard | 8 – Child safety knowledge, s | 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: Organisational | 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 | appropriately implemented by staff and | pathway for any concerns staff form for student | Yes/No | Nominate a child safety champion and support them to facilitate the induction and training programs for staff and volunteers. Develop and communicate your Child Safe Code of Conduct, Child Safety and and Wellbeing Policy, and Child Safety Responding and Reporting Obligations Policy. | |
| | 9 – Physical and online envir | ronments | | | | |
| 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 | Areas of child safety risk in the school buildings or grounds are not identified and appropriately supervised or managed. | 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 the oval and Middleborough & service road areas. 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 students advised that the upper levels of the portables and car park or beyond the oval is out of bounds as the area cannot be supervised maintenance areas and store cupboards are locked unless in use, with controlled access to keys school grounds are well lit for after school activities students are required to have a diary note from teacher to go to the bathroom during class time | Yes/No | Keep up to date with current online safety issues and expert information from specialist government and non-government bodies including the Office of the e-Safety Commissioner, and eSmart Schools. Create a respectful, sensitive and safe environment for people who may be experiencing family violence. Schools are required to align to the MARAM framework over time. MARAM responsibility 1 requires schools to create a respectful, sensitive and safe environment that enables a child or young person to feel comfortable to talk about their experiences of family violence and seek support. Consider cultural safety. Are there elements of the physical | |

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| | | | 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 | | school environment that would be unwelcoming to Aboriginal people? • Have guidelines for taking, storing and using images of children and students – including photos and video recordings. | |
| 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 | ICT Acceptable Use 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 BHHS is an esmart school. E-safety commissioner information sent to students and families. | Yes/No | 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. | |
| Risk Title: Off-site school activities and use of third-party providers 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 occurring during off-site school activities School staff fail to identify and manage risks of child abuse by third-party providers engaged by the school | school activities that involve third party providers. • Physical and psychological harm as a result of child abuse | Our school complies with relevant policies with respect to the following activities, including policy relating to child safety and wellbeing: Government schools Excursions NDIS Funded Therapy in Schools Work Experience Community VCAL Department's Procurement policy 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: incursions, solar car, production or sporting events. | Yes/No | | |
| | 10 - Review of child safety p | ractices | | | | |
| Risk Title: Review and improvement Description: There is a risk that the implementation of the Child Safe Standards is | 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 | 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. | 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 A working group (led by the child safety champion) is to be established to review child safety policies and procedures | Yes/No | Identify ways to involve staff, volunteers, students, families and community members in review processes. Refer to Child Safe Standard 4 for actions on | |

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| not regularly reviewed and improved Risk type: Organisational | incidents to inform possible improvements to child safety policies, procedures and practices • Failure to inform families and communities of the outcome of reviews of child safety policies, procedures and practices | Child safety policy, procedures and practices may no longer 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 | | how to engage families and communities. Develop an audit log (that is appropriately secured and has version control) of complaints and concerns, demonstrating appropriate responses and mitigations. Use surveys, focus groups and discussions to review the accessibility and level of awareness of child-safe policies and procedures by students, families, staff and volunteers. | |
| Child Safe Standard | 11 - Implementation of child | safety practices | | | | |
| Risk Title: Policies and procedures Description: There is a risk that policies and procedures do not effectively document how the organisation is safe for children and students and are not effectively implemented by staff and volunteers. Risk type: Organisational | The policies and procedures do not address all actions and measures required under the Child Safe Standards The policies and procedures are not informed by best practice models and family and community engagement 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 leaders Policies and procedures are difficult to understand | 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 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 | practice and updated where required. | Yes/No | Nominate one or more child safety champions to promote, monitor and report on the implementation of the school's child safety strategies Seek feedback from students, families, staff and volunteers on whether the policies and procedures are easy to understand. Make any relevant improvements. | |