



DANDENONG SOUTH PS

Working with Children Check – Volunteer Helpers Policy

Rationale:

Dandenong South Primary School Council acknowledges that:

- Volunteer parents' members are a valuable resource.
- Parent classroom assistance adds value to teaching and learning programs.
- Excursions provide valuable learning experiences for students.
- Volunteer parent members' involvement in excursions is often vital in enabling excursions to be conducted.
- Working with Children Act 2005 requires schools to be compliant
- Working with Children Act requires people who work or volunteer with children in certain capacities to undergo a 'Working with Children' Check. Any person whose duties usually involves or is likely to involve work in a school (other than teachers and principals) is engaged in child-related work.
 - * Parents Members to include parents, guardians and any other interested adults from the School Community.
 - * 'Camps' described herein refer to an overnight activity or stay.

Goals:

- To ensure that the parent members who assist school activities are suitable and responsible people.
- To satisfy compliancy requirements of the 'Working with Children' Act.
- To provide additional and important assistance to school programs including alternative strategies for providing the required supervisor / student ratio on excursions and camps.
- To support the schools' policy of encouraging parent participation in school events.

Implementation:

- Parents will be provided with the relevant information to apply for a WWC Check.
- Teachers will ensure that regular classroom helpers including 'reading parents' have a satisfactory WWC Check.
- Before any excursion the teacher in charge of the excursion will hold a briefing for all adults attending / assisting on the excursion prior to the outing to explain excursion details, and "duty of care" responsibilities.
- Parent members attending school camps will require approval by School Council and a 'Working with Children' Check.
- Parents to sign a Child Safety Code of Conduct.

Evaluation:

- Staff evaluation of excursions including supervision issues.
- This policy will be reviewed as part of the school's four -year review cycle.

This policy was last ratified by School Council on.....

11/08/17