

DUTY OF CARE POLICY

PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is to explain to our school community the non-delegable duty of care obligations that all staff at Thornbury Primary School owe to our students and members of the school community who visit and use the school premises.

SCOPE

This policy applies to School staff, visiting teachers and practitioners, parents, carers and students at Thornbury Primary School.

POLICY

“Duty of care” is a legal obligation that requires schools to take reasonable steps to reduce the risk of reasonably foreseeable harm, which can include personal injury (physical or psychological) or damage to property. The reasonable steps that our school may decide to take in response to a potential risk or hazard will depend on the circumstances of the risk. We acknowledge that different and sometimes greater measures may need to be taken for younger students or students with disabilities to discharge this duty of care.

Our school has developed policies and procedures to manage common risks in the school environment, including:

- Yard duty and Supervision
- Student Engagement and Wellbeing Policy
- Bullying Prevention
- Camps and Excursions
- First Aid
- Tree Maintenance
- Grounds Maintenance
- Student Private Property
- Child Safe Standards
- Emergency Management
- Visitors
- Volunteers
- Working with Children and Suitability Checks
- Mandatory Reporting
- Occupational Health and Safety

Staff at our school understand that school activities involve different levels of risk and that particular care may need to be taken to support younger students or students with additional needs. Our school also understands that it is responsible for ensuring that the school premises are kept in good repair and will take reasonable steps to reduce the risk of members of our community suffering injury or damage because of the state of the premises.

School staff, parents, carers and students are encouraged to speak to the principal to raise any concerns about risks or hazards at our school, or our duty of care obligations.

External Providers

Staff at our school acknowledge that, as our duty of care is non-delegable, we are also required to take reasonable steps to reduce the risk of reasonably foreseeable harm when external providers have been engaged to plan for or conduct an activity involving our students. Our *Visitors Policy* and *Camps and Excursions Policy* include information on the safety and care of our students when engaged with external providers.

FURTHER INFORMATION AND RESOURCES

RELATED POLICY

[Bullying Prevention Policy](#)

[CHILD SAFETY RESPONDING AND REPORTING OBLIGATIONS \(INCLUDING MANDATORY REPORTING\)](#)

[Strategies to identify and remove or reduce risks of child abuse at Thornbury Primary School](#)

[TPS CHILD SAFE ENVIRONMENT POLICY 2019](#)

[TPS Child Safe Code of Conduct June 2019](#)

[TPS Statement of Commitment to Child Safety](#)

[STRATEGIES TO PROMOTE THE PARTICIPATION AND EMPOWERMENT OF CHILDREN AT THORBURY PRIMARY SCHOOL](#)

[TPS Working with Childrens Check & Suitability Check Guidelines 2019](#)

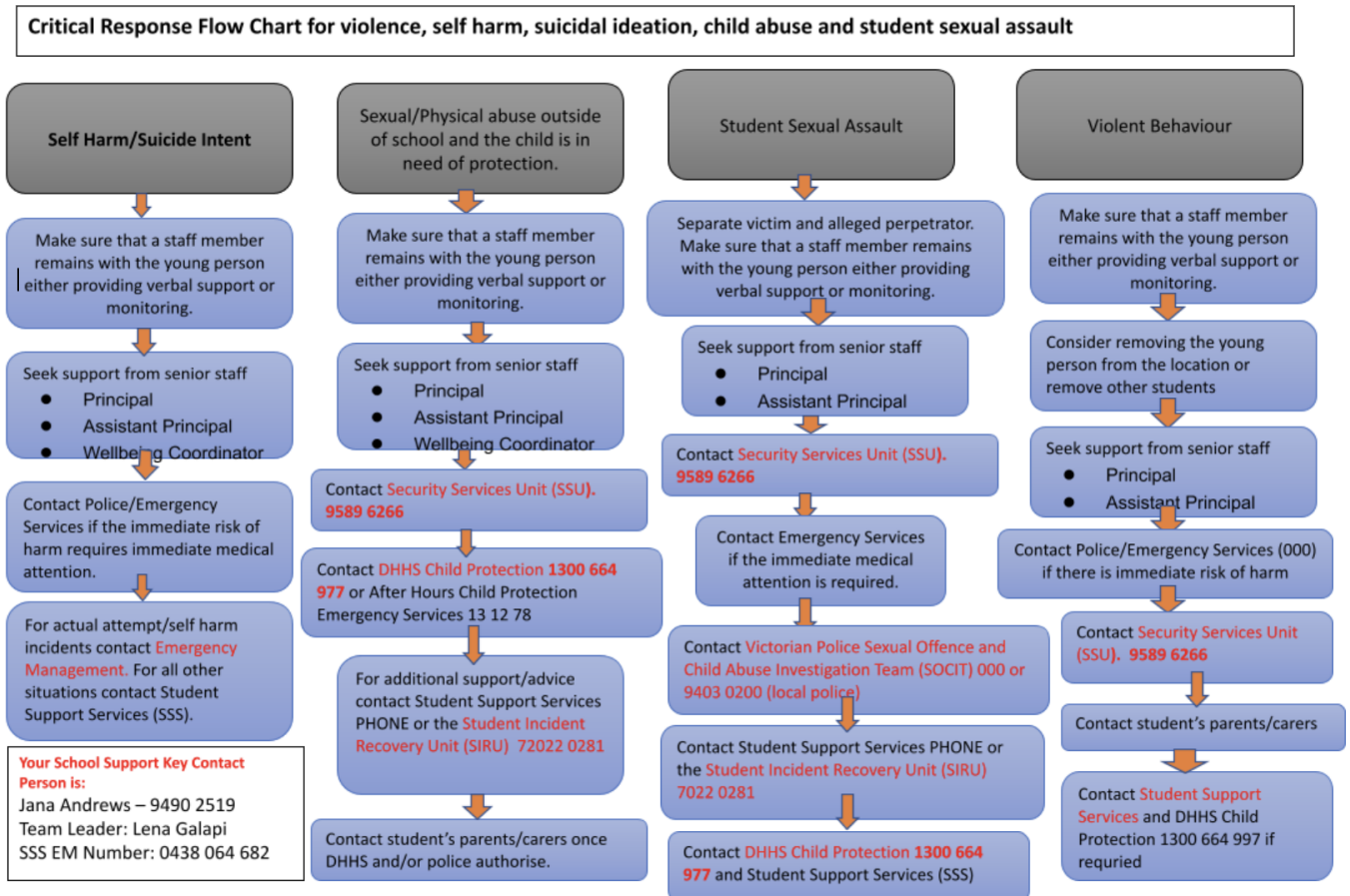
LEGISLATION AND STANDARDS

- [Wrongs Act 1958 \(Vic\)](#)

REVIEW CYCLE


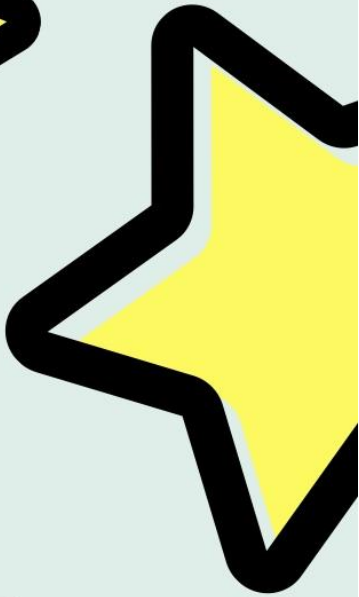

This policy was last updated on October 2021 and is scheduled for review on October 2021,

APPENDIX





TPS Mob



**I'M
DEADLY
OUTSIDE!**

I am safe



**If there is a
problem I
speak with a
teacher**