

Safeguarding Children and Young People Program

Parent Association Briefing



THE HUTCHINS SCHOOL

Safeguarding Children Program

- Hutchins has embarked on a voluntary accreditation program called Safeguarding Children.
- The program is designed by the Australian Childhood Foundation to help organisations build capacity to keep children safe from abuse and exploitation by employees and volunteers.
- The approach, tools and training are drawn from 10+ years of research.
- This initiative has been undertaken with St Michael's Collegiate.



Progress update

- At the end of 2018, all documents (policies and procedures) were uploaded to the safeguarding portal and formally endorsed by Australian Childhood Foundation (ACF).
- As at 24 Feb 2019, 300 staff and volunteers have completed the safeguarding children online training.



What are the next steps in 2019?

- Audit by ACF 4-5 March – interview with staff members, Board & Executive
- Audit report compiled by ACF 1 month after audit
- Audit report provided to independent accreditation panel for decision on accreditation
- Interview with independent panel (May 2019)
- Accredited or not accredited



The importance of this work



Royal Commission

Fast facts

42,041

Calls handled

25,964

Letters & emails received

8,013

Private sessions held

2,575

Referrals to authorities
(including police)



Do not underestimate the importance of what we are doing

Through our case studies and in private sessions, we heard many stories where institutions failed to protect children in their care from sexual abuse. What we heard showed that child sexual abuse in institutions continues today and is not just a problem from the past. We learned that institutional cultures and practices that allowed abuse to occur and inhibited detection and response continue to exist in contemporary institutions. Children's safety and best interests must be at the core of an institution's operations, and be supported by a well-informed community.

Royal Commission into Institutional Response to Child Sexual Abuse – Making institutions child safe



Still happening today

girl: 'If you'd kept your mouth shut none of this would have happened'

By Charlotte Hamlyn

Posted 29 Nov 2018 8:11pm AEDT

A Perth swimming teacher has been sentenced to two years in prison for sexually abusing a teenage girl.

Key points:

- Anthony Craig Dvorak winced in court as texts he sent the girl were read aloud
- The court heard the girl now suffers from anxiety, depression and suicidal thoughts
- Dvorak's lawyer said he knew what he had done was wrong and had shown remorse

Anthony Craig Dvorak kissed and inappropriately touched the girl, who was aged 14 when the offending began.

Teacher loses unfair dismissal case over 'sugar daddy' remarks

By Casey Briggs

Posted 29 Dec 2018 12:41pm AEDT

A teacher has been fired from his job at an Adelaide private school for suggesting to a student that he could be her "sugar daddy".

Key points:

- Adelaide teacher suggested to a student he could be her 'sugar daddy' in March
- He was dismissed by his Catholic school in May
- The Fair Work Commission upheld the school's decision

NSW teachers sacked for sexual misconduct nearly doubles over seven years, report shows

By Greg Miskelly

Updated 20 May 2017, 2:45pm

The number of teachers accused of sexual allegations against minors has risen when compared to figures in 2009, new data from the New South Wales Education Department has revealed.

Figures published in the Teacher Conduct and Performance Report showed 20 teachers were terminated over sexual abuse or misconduct allegations in 2016, up from 12 in 2009 when the data sets were first recorded.

Serious crimes also feature in the list of serious allegations.

One senior teacher was convicted of assault in a family situation, one with multiple break-and-enter convictions, and another found guilty of dangerous driving occasioning death.

Additionally, there are four cases related to illicit drug and alcohol offences.

In the past two years, the total number of conduct allegations also increased with a total of 46 teaching staff removed from NSW institutions in 2016, up from 38 in 2015.

Most of these teachers were then placed on the Not To Be Employed (NTBE) list.

Opposition spokesman for education Jihad Dib said the increase and prevalence of sexual misconduct and criminal behaviours by teachers was a worry.

"Teachers are amongst the most trusted people in society," Mr Dib said.



PHOTO: Some teachers had crimes such as assault and driving occasioning death on their records. (ABC News)

Accreditation Standards



Overview of standards

Standard 1	Commitment to Safeguarding Children
Standard 2	Personnel roles and conduct
Standard 3	Recruitment and screening processes
Standard 4	Personnel induction and training
Standard 5	Involving children and parents
Standard 6	Child abuse reports and allegations
Standard 7	Supporting a child-safe culture



Standard 5 – Involving children and parents



Involving parents and children

- Obtaining feedback from both students and parent/carers is crucial
- The Hutchins School website will host information for students and parent/carers on Safeguarding Children Program
 - Information for parents about Safeguarding Children and Young People
 - Guidelines for parents and carers - Safeguarding Children and Young People
 - Safeguarding statement for children



What will PA members need to do?

- Hold and maintain working with vulnerable people registration
- Complete the online Safeguarding Children Training
- Read the Practice and Behaviour Guidelines and sign the Commitment Statement



What important questions do you have?



THANK YOU

THE HUTCHINS SCHOOL

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