

## CHILD PROTECTION PROCEDURES (NAG 5)

We are committed to the prevention of abuse and neglect and to the protection of all children and young people. In line with Section 15 of the Children, Young Person and Their Families Act, any person in our school who believes that any child or young person has been, or is likely to be, harmed (whether physically, emotionally, or sexually) ill-treated, abused, neglected, or deprived must follow these school procedures and may also report the matter to the appropriate government agency and/or the police.

1. The school will ensure the interests and protection of students are paramount in all circumstances
2. Staff recognise the rights of family/whānau to participate in the decision-making about their children and young people
3. The school will ensure that staff are aware of the signs and symptoms of potential abuse and neglect
4. The school will make available professional development, resources and/or advice to ensure staff can carry out their roles in terms of this policy
5. These procedures are included in the initial staff induction programme
6. Staff must refer disclosures by students of neglect or abuse to the HOD of Guidance or another senior staff member e.g. dean, member of the Senior Leadership Team, who will contact Guidance.
7. The school will seek advice as necessary from relevant agencies when safety issues arise e.g. Oranga Tamariki, Police

### Related documentation and information

- Ministry of Education website [www.education.govt.nz](http://www.education.govt.nz)
- [Vulnerable Children Act 2014](#)
- Further information and sample child protection templates are available in the Children's Action Plan guideline Safer Organisations, Safer Children: <http://www.childrensactionplan.govt.nz/assets/CAP-Uploads/childrens-workforce/Safer-Organisations-safer-children.pdf>