

OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH AND SAFETY POLICY

Context

St Patrick's College is a Catholic day and boarding school for boys in the Edmund Rice tradition, established in 1893. St Patrick's College is committed to providing a caring, supportive, and safe environment where every student has a place, a voice and their story is known. Edmund Rice Education Australia is committed to providing safe and supportive environments where all children and young people entrusted to our care are affirmed in their dignity and worth as a person.

Background

Edmund Rice Education Australia – Victorian Schools Limited (EREA-VSL), as St Patrick's College's governing authority, sets the policy framework for all EREA-VSL schools. These policies have been contextualised for St Patrick's College's particular school environment so that our policies reflect the needs of our students*.

*Student includes any person enrolled in the College, either as a day pupil or as a boarder.

Rationale =

St Patrick's College is committed to maintaining a safe environment for all in its community.

St Patrick's College has both a legal and moral obligation to provide an environment which is safe for all who enter the College property. This obligation shall be enshrined in the College's Occupational Health and Safety Policy (OH&S).

Mission

College Mission 2023-2025

Scripture

"Is not the Lord your God with you? Has he not given you peace on every side? For He has delivered the inhabitants of the land into my hand; and the land is subdued before the Lord and his people. Now set your mind and heart to seek the Lord your God. Go and build the sanctuary of the Lord God so that the ark of the covenant of the Lord and the holy vessels of God may be brought into a house built for the name of the Lord".

Policy

The College will endeavor at all times to comply with all legal responsibilities as specified by appropriate Occupational Health and Safety legislation namely The Occupational Health and Safety Act 2004.

The College will make every reasonable and practicable effort to prevent accidents, protect all members of the community from injury and promote the health, safety and wellbeing of all employees, students, parents, contractors and other visitors to the school site.

Definition of Terms

Act - The Occupational Health and Safety Act 2004

Health and Safety Representative (HSR) representative of the College who hasbeen elected, in accordance with section 30 of the Occupational Health and Safety Act 2004, by employees at the College for a term of two years.

ManagementRepresentative- The Principal of the College or his nominee.

OH&S Guidelines

Pursuant to the legal and moral obligation of the College in relation to 'The Act' the following guidelines will apply:

Duties of employers to employees

- An employer must, so far as is reasonably practicable, provide and maintain for employees of the employer a working environment that is safe and without risks to health;
- Provide or maintain plant or systems of work that are, so far as isreasonably practicable, safe and without risks to health;
- Make arrangements for ensuring, so far as is reasonably practicable, safety and the absence of
 risks to health in connection with the use, handling, storage or transport of plant or
 substances:
- Maintain, so far as is reasonably practicable, each workplace under the employer's management and control in a condition that is safe and without risks to health;
- Provide, so far as is reasonably practicable, adequate facilities for the welfare of employees at any workplace under the management and control of the employer;
- Provide such information, instruction, training or supervision to employeesof the employer as
 is necessary to enable those persons to perform their work in a way that is safe and without
 risks to health.

Review of Procedures and Policy

The St Patrick's College Occupational Health and Safety procedures and policy will be reviewed every year to ensure that the College continues to be compliant with anychanges to the OH&S legislation.

Relevant Guidelines and Procedures

The College has adopted Guidelines and Procedures to assist the College in maintaining a healthy and

