

## Child Protection: Procedures for Responding to and Reporting Allegations of Suspected Child Abuse

At Brunswick Sinhala School we have a zero tolerance for child abuse and are committed to acting in the child's best interest to protect them from harm. We are clear about our behavioural expectations for every member of our school community. We regard our child protection responsibilities to be of the utmost importance and are committed to providing the necessary resources to ensure compliance with all relevant child protection laws and regulations and maintain a child safe culture.

We have developed this policy as an overarching document that communicates our approach to protecting children from abuse.

'Child Abuse' includes:

- Sexual offences;
- grooming;
- Physical violence;
- Serious emotional or psychological harm;
- Serious neglect; and
- Family violence, or exposure to family violence.

If you have any concern that a child may be experiencing any form of abuse, whether or not you have formed a belief on reasonable grounds that the abuse has occurred, you should immediately raise your concerns with one of our Child Safety Officers. These officers have received special training that allows them to deal with child protection concerns both sensitively and effectively. Any matters regarding child protection presented to the Principal will be immediately redirected to our Child Safety Officer, Communications will be treated confidentially on a 'need to know basis'.

Name	Position	Phone #	Email Address
Prasanna Archchigelage	Principal	0430884044	prasanela@gmail.com
Amali Kaushalya	Child Safety Officer	0433327187	akau79@yahoo.com.au
Chandana Paranagama	Vice Secretary	0437947255	paranagamage@gmail.com

The welfare and best interests of the child are paramount. Whenever there are concerns that a child is in immediate danger the Police should be called on 000.