



Communication and Support Policy

The child and youth risk management strategy is most effective when it has been successfully communicated to all people involved within Saints Swimming Club.

When parents/carers, employees, volunteers, children and young people are communicated and educated in the child and youth risk management strategies they will be more likely to accept, support and adhere to them. This will then build a culture which recognises and values the importance of upholding safeguards for children.

Saints Swimming Club is committed to ensure that

- ✚ all people in Saints Swimming Club are aware of their responsibilities and understand what acceptable behaviour for interacting with children is.
- ✚ people are to feel comfortable addressing issues of concern, and
- ✚ it is highlighted the importance of Saints Swimming Clubs commitment to protecting the safety and wellbeing of children in our service environment.

Communication

- ✚ The Child and Youth Risk Management Policies will be made available on the Saints Swimming Website.
- ✚ New parents will be given an induction by the appropriate member and given information on how to access the child and youth risk management policies.
- ✚ Display posters on their noticeboard to promote Saints Swimming Clubs commitment to safe and supportive environments for children and young people whenever practical.

Support

Support may be required by the coaching staff to deal with issues such as behaviour management, stress, conflict, bullying, child protection concerns, breaches of the risk management strategy and dealing with disclosures or suspicions of harm. If these concerns are not addressed effectively, our organisation's ability to provide a safe and supportive environment for children and young people may be affected.

Parents and children and young people may also require support to assist with managing concerns. Saints Swimming Club will ensure that we are prepared to provide or facilitate required support services to people involved within the club.

Saints Swimming Club will:

- ✚ Appoint an internal support service officer, usually the president
- ✚ Implement a mentoring program for swimmers using club captains and senior swimmers to ensure the younger children always have a “safe” person to talk to.
- ✚ Provide mediation or other alternative conflict resolution when needed

It is our commitment to ensure that everyone associated with Saints Swimming Club is aware of the child and youth risk management strategy.