Child Safety Commitment Statement

At Aitken College we have a zero tolerance for child abuse and are committed to acting in children's best interests and keeping them safe from harm. The College regards its child protection responsibilities with the utmost importance and as such, is committed to providing the necessary resources to ensure compliance.

The College's commitment to child safety is based on the following overarching principles

1. All children have the right to be safe.

2. The welfare and best interests of the child are paramount.

3. The views of the child and a child's privacy must be respected.

4. Clear expectations for appropriate behaviour with children are established in our Child Safety Code of Conduct and Staff and Student Professional Boundaries Policy.

5. The safety of children is dependent upon the existence of a child safe culture.

6. Child safety awareness is promoted and openly discussed within our College community.

7. Procedures are in place to screen all staff, Direct Contact Volunteers, Third Party Contractors and External Education Providers who have direct contact with children.

8. Child safety and protection is everyone's responsibility.

9. Child protection training is mandatory for all Aitken College Board members, staff and Direct Contact Volunteers.

10. Procedures for responding to alleged or suspected incidents of child abuse are simple and accessible for all members of the College community.

11. Children from culturally or linguistically diverse backgrounds have the right to special care and support including those who identify as Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander.

12. Children who have any kind of disability have the right to special care and support.

Every person involved in the College has a responsibility to understand the important and specific role he/she plays individually and collectively to ensure that the wellbeing and safety of all children and young people is at the forefront of all they do and every decision they make. All staff, volunteers and contractors at Aitken College must abide by the Child Safety and Wellbeing Policy and Child Safety Code of Conduct.