



Penola
CATHOLIC COLLEGE
EST. 1995



PENOLA CATHOLIC COLLEGE

Child Safe Policy

Student Version

Introduction

At Penola Catholic College, we have a Child Safe Policy to help us make safe choices about what happens in the school.

Our school works really hard to help and look after all students; old and young, students with different beliefs, and students from different backgrounds.

We have many ways to keep you safe, so you never need to worry or feel scared.





Feeling Safe

We are committed to making sure all students and young people at Penola Catholic College know that they have the right to feel safe, at school, outside of school and online.

Our school does not accept any type of bullying or unsafe behaviour.



Speak Up!

All students and young people can speak up if they are feeling unsafe.

Our staff and teachers are always there for you to speak to if help is needed, and students can trust that they will be listened to. The information given by the student will only be shared with other people who can support and protect them.



See something, Say Something

Penola Catholic College is always on the lookout to make sure our school is safe as this is very important to us. If we find a problem or something is unsafe, we aim to fix this quickly.

If you see something unsafe in the school, you must always tell someone so that it can be fixed.

Code of Conduct

Our school has a code of conduct for all adults (you can find this on our website). This states the expectations for adults who work, volunteer, and visit our school because adults have rules as well as children, these adults include:

- All teachers
- All adults working at the school
- The School Advisory Council
- Priests
- Casual Relief Teachers
- Parent helpers
- Volunteers





Our Safe Space

Penola Catholic College has created a school environment for students and young people to be safe and to feel safe and we want to make sure all students are able to:

- Keep themselves and others safe
- Recognise feeling safe doesn't just mean at school, it means outside of school and online too
- Know that if they see something, they should say something
- Openly express their views and feel comfortable to tell us what's important to them

An aerial photograph of Penola Catholic College. The main building is a large, light-colored structure with a grey tiled roof and a prominent balcony with a yellow railing. To the left, there's a red brick building. The foreground shows a green lawn, a paved area, and a large potted tree in a circular stone planter. A semi-transparent red box covers the left side of the image, containing text.

Staff Checklist

Before Penola Catholic College hires staff and volunteers, did you know we do checks to see if they can work with children?

The things we do to make sure they are right for our safe environment are:

- ✓ Check if there is a police criminal record and check they have a Working with Children Check
- ✓ Make sure they understand and sign the Code of Conduct
- ✓ Make certain they are fair and kind to students
- ✓ Guarantee they can follow the rules
- ✓ Speak to those who worked with them before to make sure they are safe people

All our staff regularly have opportunities, such as training each year, to make sure they are up to date with how to keep young people safe.



What do you do?

Penola Catholic College staff and teachers know what to do if a student is being harmed by unsafe or dangerous behaviour. So, what do you do?

If you find yourself or others in a situation where an adult has been unsafe with you or another child, you can tell any of our staff or teachers. Most students will speak to a staff member they trust and that is fine because it is important to us that students at risk feel safe and know that we can help them.

Child Safety Officers

At Penola Catholic College, we have Child Safety Officers. Their job is to make Penola a safe place.

If you have any questions or concerns about your safety or the safety of your friends, these are your go to people:



Mr Chris Caldwell
Principal
ccaldow@penola.vic.edu.au



Ms Erin Bonavia
Deputy Principal
ebonavia@penola.vic.edu.au



Mr Stuart Harrison
Deputy Principal
sharrison@penola.vic.edu.au

All Inclusive

Penola is an all-inclusive school and we respect, help and care for ALL students, no matter what!

So if you are a different shape or size, old or young, have a different belief or background, like different things, have a different ability, different way of learning, different personality and interest, any gender or sexual orientation, then our school will provide special support to keep students safe and make sure they feel cared for.

