



## VISITORS POLICY

### PURPOSE

To provide a safe and secure learning and teaching environment for students and staff by establishing processes to monitor and manage visitors to Cann River P-12 College.

### SCOPE

This policy applies to any visitors who may attend school grounds when the school is open for instruction between the hours of 8:30am to 4:00pm, and when the office is staffed to monitor/receive visitors at reception. Outside of these times, our front office is not staffed and the only visitors who are permitted on school grounds are parents/carers or their delegates who are dropping off or picking up students from After School Activities, school events such as parent teacher interviews, concerts, sport or other school activities.

### DEFINITIONS

*Child-related work:* As defined by the *Working with Children Act 2005* (Vic), child-related work is work that usually involves direct contact (including in person, over the phone, written and online communication) with a child that is a central part of that person's duties. It does not include work that involves occasional contact with children that is incidental to the work.

### POLICY

Cann River P-12 College strives to create an open and inclusive school community, and encourages parents and carers to be actively involved in their child's development and education. We also strive to foster strong partnerships with local community services, schools and other organisations.

Cann River P-12 College is not a public place. The principal has the authority to permit or deny entry to school grounds, and encourages all visitors to familiarise themselves with our school's *Statement of Values*, *Child Safe Policy*, *Statement of Commitment to Child Safety*, *Child Safe Code of Conduct* [insert any relevant local school policy here].

From time to time, different members of the public may visit our school. Visitors may include, but are not limited to:

- Parents
- Volunteers – see our school's Volunteers Policy for more information
- Prospective parents, students and employees
- Invited speakers, sessional instructors and others addressing learning and development
- Public officials (e.g. Members of Parliament, local councillors)
- Persons conducting business e.g. uniform suppliers, booksellers, official school photographers, commercial salespeople
- Tradespeople
- Children's services agencies
- Department of Health and Human Services workers
- Victoria Police
- Persons authorised to enter school premises (e.g. Worksafe inspectors, health officers etc)
- Other Department of Education and Training staff (including allied health staff) or contractors
- NDIS therapists or other allied health or health practitioners

## Sign in procedure

Visitors to Cann River P-12 College are required to report to the school office on arrival (see exceptions below in relation to parents/carers). Visitors must:

- Record their name, signature, date and time of visit and purpose of visit in [include details, i.e., visitors book, computer system, etc]
- Provide proof of identification to office staff upon request
- Produce their valid Working with Children Check where required by this policy (see below)
- Follow instruction from school staff and abide by all relevant policies relating to appropriate conduct on school grounds including [insert relevant policies e.g., Child Safety Code of Conduct, Sexual Harassment Policy, Workplace Bullying Policy, Respect for School Staff, Statement of Values etc]
- Return to the office upon departure and sign out

Cann River P-12 College will ensure that our school's Child Safety Code of Conduct/ are available to visitors to sign in when it is necessary.

**All visitors** who are engaged in child-related work must have a valid **Working with Children** card. Further background checks, including references, may also be requested at the discretion of the principal. Victoria Police officers or s Australian Federal Police officers are exempt from requiring a WWC Check but may be asked to verify that they are sworn officers by providing proof of identification.

## Invited speakers and presenters

On occasion, Cann River P-12 College may invite external speakers or providers to deliver incursions, presentations, workshops, and special programs for our students. Consistent with Department of Education and Training requirements, Cann River P-12 College will:

- ensure that the content of presentations and programs by external providers contributes to the educational development of our students and is consistent with curriculum objectives
- ensure that any proposed visit, programs or content delivered by visitors complies with the requirement that education in Victorian government schools is secular and is consistent with the values of public education, Department policies and the *Education and Training Reform Act 2006* (Vic). In particular, programs delivered by visitors are to be delivered in a manner that supports and promotes the principles and practice of Australian democracy including a commitment to:
  - elected government
  - the rule of law
  - equal rights for all before the law
  - freedom of religion, speech and association
  - the values of openness and tolerance
  - respect the range of views held by students and their families.

## Other visitors

All business operators, tradespeople and other visitors attending the school to conduct work must report to the school office upon arrival for instruction and follow the sign in procedure outlined above.

## REVIEW PERIOD

This policy was last updated in June 2021 and is scheduled for review on June 2024.