



WHANGANUI HIGH SCHOOL CHILD PROTECTION POLICY

<p>INTRODUCTION</p>	<p>1 The school Board and Principals of each state and integrated school in New Zealand are required to:</p> <p>a) provide a safe physical and emotional environment for students, and b) comply in full with any legislation currently in force or that may be developed to ensure the safety of students and employees.</p> <p>2 <u>Legislation</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Education and Training Act 2020; Education and Training Amendment Act 2023 • Oranga Tamariki Act 1989 • Crimes Act, 1961 • Family Violence Act 2018 • Privacy Act, 2020 • Vulnerable Children Act, 2014 • Care of Children Act, 2004 • Employment Relations Act, 2000 • Public Service Act 2020 • Human Rights Act 1998 • Health and Safety At Work Act 2015 <p>For the purposes of this policy "Child" means a person under the age of 14 years, "Young Person" means a person of or over the age of 14 years. For the purposes of this policy "Staff" means all those employed by Whanganui High School, whether paid or voluntary, full time or part-time.</p>
<p>OBJECTIVES</p>	<p>1 This Policy, on the identification and reporting of child abuse and neglect accepts that:</p> <p><i>[Definition of Child Abuse – Refer Appendix I]</i></p> <p>a) the paramount consideration is the welfare and interests of the child or young person (OT Act [s6]); b) guidelines and training will be provided for teachers and others working with children and young people in the school environment; c) there is a commitment to ensuring that children and young people are provided with education to enhance their safety and awareness; d) procedures should be developed for dealing with cases of current or historical abuse; e) external agencies which should be used will be identified, what services they provide, what liaison is required, along with appropriate referral procedures. <i>[Refer Appendix II]</i></p>
<p>GUIDELINES</p>	<p>1 Whanganui High School will facilitate training for all staff to help them to identify suspected abuse and/or neglect and to be able to respond appropriately. Training needs will be identified and planned regularly in consultation with staff.</p> <p>2 Students would have access to information about child abuse and appropriate responses to it through the relevant parts of this curriculum.</p> <p>3 In managing suspected cases of child abuse and/or neglect a staff member will be nominated to act as a safety advocate for the child or young person.</p> <p>4 In suspected cases of child abuse and/or neglect, decisions about informing parents or caregivers will be made after consultation between the school and the statutory child protection service called in by them.</p>
<p>RECOMMENDED REPORTING</p>	<p>1 If the child or young person is in danger or unsafe, act immediately to secure their safety.</p>


PROCEDURES AND FLOWCHART <i>[Refer Appendix III]</i>	2	Listen to the child or young person and reassure them but do not make promises or commitments you cannot keep.
	3	Ensure that any information or disclosures by the child or young person are written down and check that comments and events surrounding the concern have also been recorded.
	4	Ensure that the child or young person has a responsible adult supporting them through this process and that the support role is clearly defined.
	5	Do not formally interview the child or young person. Obtain only necessary relevant facts if and when clarification is needed.
	6	Hold immediate discussion with guidance counsellor child safety advocate.
	7	Inform the principal.
	8	Agree on appropriate course of action.
	9	The principal assures notification to Oranga Tamariki or the Police. Await further contact before taking any action.
	10	After making sure the referral has gone to Oranga Tamariki or the Police, get support for yourself from appropriate persons, if needed.
EXPECTED OUTCOME		Students have a proven safe, physical and emotional environment.
EVALUATION		The Board, in association with the Principal, will review this policy on a three-yearly cycle in accordance with the School's quality management cycle.
CONCLUSION	1	This policy provides the means of training staff to recognise and cope appropriately in situations where students are in need of help, to provide the relevant safe and secure environment.
	2	Other Policies relevant to this Policy include – 3.11 Sexual Harassment 3.13 Anti-Violence, Anti-Harassment, Anti-Abuse & Anti-Bullying 5.1 Health & Safety

Approved by the Board
Signed Presiding Member:



Date: 25/3/24

Signed Principal:



Date: 25/3/24

Definition of Child Abuse

The Oranga Tamariki Act, 1989, defines child abuse as "...the harming (whether physically, emotionally, sexually), ill-treatment, abuse, neglect, or deprivation of any child or young person".

Physical abuse is a non-accidental act on a child that results in physical harm. This includes, but is not limited to, beating, hitting, shaking, burning, drowning, suffocating, biting, poisoning or otherwise causing physical harm to a child. Physical abuse also involves the fabrication or inducing of illness.

Emotional abuse is the persistent emotional ill treatment of a child such as to cause severe and persistent adverse effect on the child's emotional development. This can include a pattern of rejecting, degrading, ignoring, isolating, corrupting, exploiting or terrorising a child. It may also include age or developmentally inappropriate expectations being imposed on children. It also includes the seeing or hearing the ill treatment of others.

Sexual Abuse involves forcing or enticing a child or young person to take part in sexual activities (penetrative and non-penetrative, for example, rape, kissing, touching, masturbation) as well as non-contact acts such as involving children in the looking at or production of sexual images, sexual activities and sexual behaviour.

Neglect is the persistent failure to meet a child's basic physical and/or psychological needs, causing long term serious harm to the child's health or development. It may also include neglect of a child's basic or emotional needs. Neglect is a lack: of action, emotion or basic needs.

Family Violence is physical, emotional, sexual and other abuse by someone (usually but not always a man) of a person (usually but not always a woman) with whom they have or have had some form of intimate relationship with, such as marriage or cohabitation, in order to maintain power and control over a person. It is important to be vigilant to any signs, particularly if children are being affected.

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HELPING AGENCIES / NGA ROPU AWHINE

In School: Appointments made at Student Centre

Form Teachers and Deans	
Guidance Counsellors	Jacqui McKenzie / Wendy Stanaway
Health Nurses	Jo Anne Letigo / Kelli-Anne Tyson
SUPP (A&D Counselling)	Sam & Paul <i>Thursdays (am)</i>
Career Advisor	Mr Paul Keene

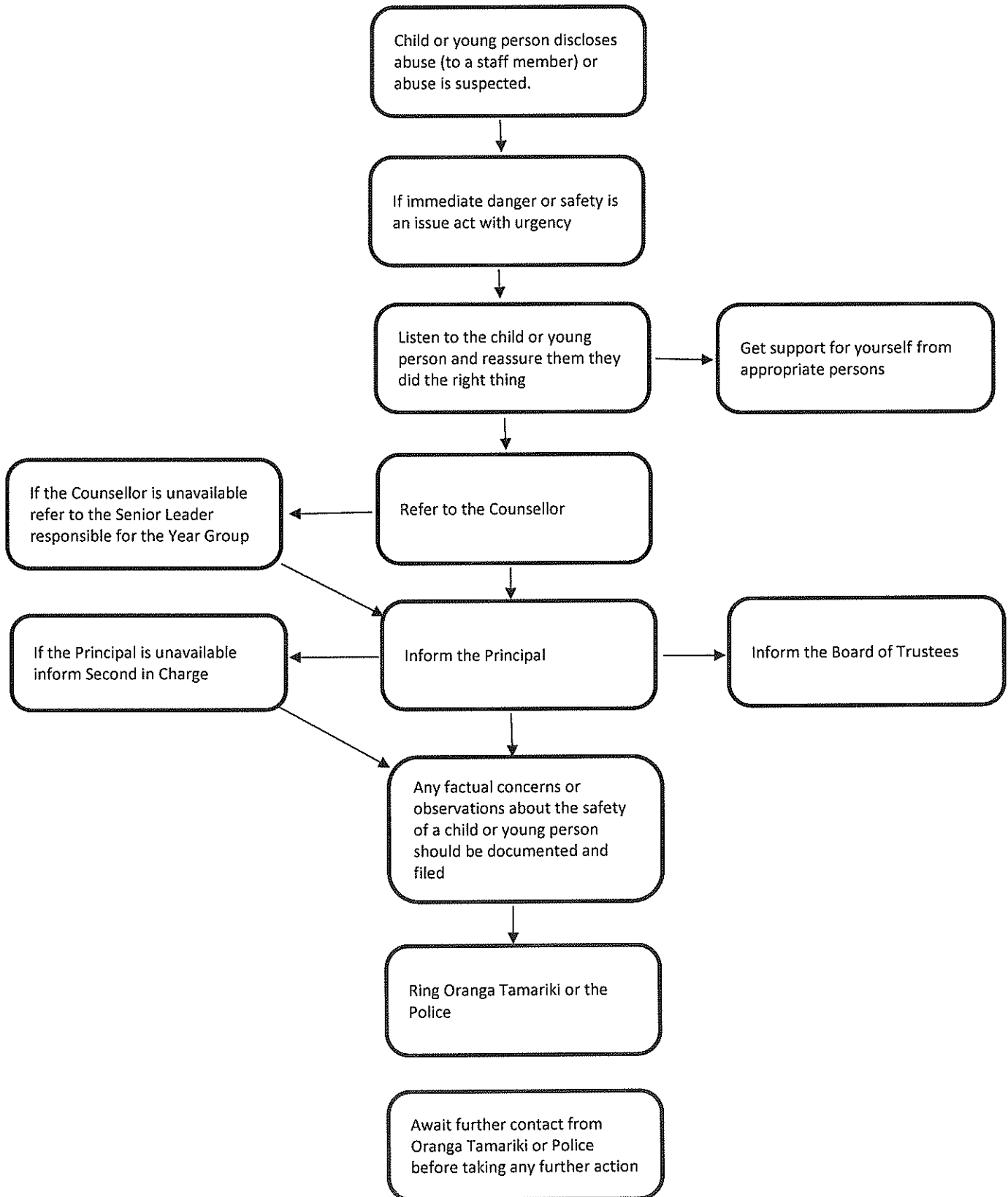
In Our Community:

Adolescent Social Worker	Paula Brider <i>Pregnancy Counselling</i>	348 8196 or 348 1282
Alcohol & Drug Helpline		0800 787797
Attendance Services	<i>Amie Ware – Te Oranganui</i>	027 467 1658
Barnados	<i>Family Support, 22 Purnell St</i>	0800 227627 or 348 2091
Birthright	<i>244 Victoria Ave, Supports One Parent Families</i>	347 1770 or 021 2658718
Boys & Girls Gym Club		345 8670
Cancer Society	<i>3 Koromiko Rd</i>	348 7402
CAMHS		348 1901
Citizens Advice Bureau	<i>Guyton St</i>	0800 367222 or 345 0844
CLAW	<i>76 Guyton St</i>	348 8288
Crisis Team (PEHT)		0800 653358
Depression Help Line		0800 111757
Family Court		0200 268 787
Family Planning	<i>Suite 8 Wicksteed Tce</i>	347 9415 or 0800 372546
Family Works Centre	<i>179 Wicksteed St</i>	345 6681
Gambling Helpline		0800 654655 or Txt 8006
Group Special Ed RTL B	<i>93 Ingestre St</i>	349 6300 349 0228
Hapai Mauri Tangata	<i>69 Heads Rd, A&D Support</i>	348 0282
Health Line		0800 611 116
Jigsaw	<i>236 Victoria Ave, Family Support</i>	345 1636
Life Line		0800 543354
Ministry of Education		349 6300
Oranga Tamariki Liaison	<i>74 Ingestre St Josh Marwick CAN Children's Action Team</i>	0508 326 459 (Call Centre) 965 3550 0508 332 774
Open Home Foundation	<i>269 St Hill St</i>	345 7043
Police	<i>Peter Gray (Youth Aid)</i>	349 0600 349 0604 / 021 191 5474
Public Health Centre	<i>Lambie Hostel</i>	348 1775
RISE Stopping Violence	<i>284 St Hill St</i>	347 7992
Samaritans		0800 726666
Splash Centre		349 0113
SUPP	<i>Sam & Paul</i>	348 1901 or 021 192 8010 (Sam)
Te Oranganui Iwi Health Authority	<i>57 Campbell St</i>	349 0007

In Our Community *continued.....*

Tupoho Iwi & Community Social Services	<i>64 Campbell St, Social Work and Counselling</i>	345 3301
Wai Ora Trust	<i>49 Brunswick Rd</i>	343 5015
Whanganui District Council Animal Control		349 0517
Whanganui Hospital	<i>ICAMHS</i>	348 1234 348 1901
Whanganui Safe & Free	<i>Sexual Abuse Healing</i>	343 3416
WINZ Youth Service	<i>133 Wicksteed St Jesse Hamilton-Hall</i>	0800 559009 965 8130/ 029 222 0613
Women's Centre Inc	<i>75 St Hill St</i>	345 6833
Women & Children Shelter (Refuge)		348 2204
Youth Services Trust	<i>39 Drews Ave</i>	348 9935
Youth Line		0800 376633 or Txt 234 / 357 3067
YMCA	<i>125 Grey St</i>	349 0197

Flow Chart for Action



POINTS TO NOTE

- 1 Documentation may subsequently be used in court as evidence for either side.
- 2 Avoid making judgements, simply record the facts.
- 3 Interviewing of suspected abuse victims is a specialised procedure best left to those who are trained in such techniques.
- 4 The child advocate should be responsible for ensuring that the child’s welfare remains paramount.