



THE MATHEMATICAL
ASSOCIATION OF VICTORIA

Child Safe Statement of Commitment.

The Mathematical Association of Victoria (The MAV).

The MAV is committed to the safety and wellbeing of all children and young people. This will be the primary focus of our care and decision-making.

The MAV has zero tolerance for child abuse.

The MAV is committed to providing a child safe environment where children and young people are safe and feel safe, and their voices are heard about decisions that affect their lives. Particular attention will be paid to the cultural safety of Aboriginal children and children from culturally and/or linguistically diverse backgrounds, as well as the safety of children with a disability.

Every person involved in The MAV 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.

Child Safe Standards apply to organisations providing services for children.

Principles for child safety.

In its planning, decision-making and operations The MAV will:

1. Take a preventative, proactive and participatory approach to child safety;
2. Value and empower children to participate in decisions which affect their lives;
3. Foster a culture of openness that supports all persons to safely disclose risks of harm to children'
4. Respect diversity in cultures and child rearing practices while keeping child safety paramount;
5. Provide written guidance on appropriate conduct and behaviour towards children when appropriate;
6. Engage only the most suitable people to work with children and have high quality staff, contractor and volunteer supervision;
7. Ensure children know who to talk with if they are worried or are feeling unsafe, and that they are comfortable and encouraged to raise such issues;
8. Report suspected abuse, neglect or mistreatment promptly to the appropriate authorities;
9. Share information appropriately and lawfully with other organisations where the safety and wellbeing of children is at risk; and
10. Value the input of and communicate regularly with families and carers as appropriate.

Context:

As a not for profit “providing services to children” The Mathematical Association of Victoria is a category 2 “in scope” organisation.

Primarily an association for teachers, The MAV provides events for students from primary and secondary schools, these include but are not limited to:

- A maths camp for year 9/10 students
- STEM events for secondary students
- Victorian Certificate of Education (VCE) revision lectures
- Mathematics games days, and family maths nights
- Mathematics talent quest awards ceremony

The MAV also works in schools independently as consultants, and under funding from parties including the Victoria Department of Education and Training to support teachers. This includes coaching, mentoring and team, teaching, where there is contact of consultants with students in the classroom.

The MAV staff and if applicable, volunteers or contractors, attending our events or working on behalf of The MAV have a current Victorian Institute of Teaching (VIT) registration and/or current Working with Children Check.

Students who attend our events should be accompanied by the required number of teaching staff from their school when appropriate. In this case the responsibility and duty of care for the children lies with the supervising school staff.

The MAV has a Child Protection Policy and Procedures, and Child Safe Code of Policy and Procedures and A Child Safety Code of Conduct.

References:

Department of Education and Training

http://www.education.vic.gov.au/Documents/about/programs/health/protect/ChildSafeStandard2_ExampleStatement.pdf

Victorian Registrations and Qualifications Authority

<http://www.vrqa.vic.gov.au/childsafes/Pages/resources.html>

Department of Human Services <http://www.dhs.vic.gov.au/about-the-department/documents-and-resources/policies,-guidelines-and-legislation/child-safe-standards-resources>

Our Community (2016) *Child Protection Toolkit: What every not-for-profit organisation must do now.*

http://www.frrr.org.au/resources/Child_Protection_Toolkit_2016_Online.pdf