

Safeguarding and Child Protection Policy

Parkview Pre-Primary School · Reviewed annually

1. Our Commitment to Child Safety

At Parkview Pre-Primary School, we are committed to creating a safe, happy, and nurturing environment where every child feels protected, safe, valued and free to thrive. We take child safeguarding seriously and believe that all children have the right to be protected from harm, abuse, or neglect.

This policy is guided by the Children's Act 38 of 2005, and other relevant South African laws that aim to protect children's rights and promote their well-being.

2. Our Safeguarding Principles

We believe:

- Children's safety and well-being always come first.
- All children have the right to be protected from all forms of abuse and harm.
- Children must be taught about personal boundaries in a safe, age-appropriate way.
- Staff must act if they see or suspect any form of abuse or neglect.

3. Roles and Responsibilities

- All staff and volunteers must report any concerns or incidents to our Designated Safeguarding Officer (DSO).
- Parents/guardians are our partners in child safety and are encouraged to raise any concerns.
- Our DSO is responsible for handling reports, maintaining records, and reporting to the Department of Social Development (DSD) or SAPS where required.

Designated Safeguarding Officer: Debbie Brown

Contact: 011 646 2309 (school office)

4. Types of Abuse We Safeguard Against

We are aware of each child and look out for and act on:

- Physical abuse (e.g. hitting, shaking)
- Emotional abuse (e.g. bullying, humiliation)
- Sexual abuse (e.g. inappropriate touching or exposure)
- Neglect (e.g. lack of food, clothing, supervision)

5. Teaching Children About “Good Touch and Bad Touch”

We use age-appropriate language and activities to teach children about personal boundaries.

Children are taught that:



Good Touch	Bad Touch
• A hug from mom or dad when they're sad • A high five or handshake • Holding hands with a trusted adult when crossing the street	• Any touch that makes them feel scared, confused, or uncomfortable • Touching private parts or being asked to touch someone else's • Keeping secrets about touch • Someone touching them and telling them not to tell

We encourage children to use their words and always talk to a trusted adult if something makes them feel uncomfortable.

6. Staff Background Checks and First Aid

All staff must:

- Undergo background checks, including clearance from the National Child Protection Register.
- Complete regular first aid training.
- Follow our Staff Code of Conduct.

7. Reporting Concerns or Incidents

If a child discloses something or we suspect abuse:

1. The staff member will listen carefully and stay calm.
2. The child will be reassured that they did the right thing by speaking up.
3. The staff member will not promise secrecy.
4. The concern will be reported immediately to the DSO.
5. The DSO will contact the relevant authorities (DSD or SAPS) within 24 hours, if needed.

All incidents are documented and stored securely.

8. Confidentiality

All information shared regarding a child's safety is treated with the highest confidentiality. It is only shared with people who need to know in order to protect the child.

9. Child-Friendly Safety Rules We Teach

We teach children:

- Their body belongs to them.
- They can say "NO" to any touch that makes them uncomfortable.
- It's okay to talk about anything that worries them.
- They should tell a grown-up they trust if they ever feel unsafe.

10. Important Contact Numbers

Designated Safeguarding Officer — Debbie Brown

011 646 2309



South African Police Service (SAPS)

10111

Policy Review. This policy will be reviewed annually or after any safeguarding incident. Staff, parents, and the school board are welcome to contribute to updates or give feedback.

Signed

D. Brown

Principal / Manager

D. Brown

Date

8 January 2026

