



## CAULFIELD GRAMMARIANS FOOTBALL CLUB

### CHILD PROTECTION POLICY

The Caulfield Grammarians Football Club (CGFC) 'Child Protection Policy' is in place to ensure the safety of children within the CGFC community by providing guidelines for interaction with children playing at CGFC. All coaches, officials, and support staff (**Club Personnel**) are expected to abide by this policy.

All Club Personnel should:

#### **1. Maintain clear physical boundaries:**

- a. only use physical contact that is appropriate for the development of a particular skill and has the permission of the athlete; and
- b. work within sight of others at all times.

#### **2. Maintain clear emotional boundaries:**

- a. use positive feedback on performance, not negative feedback about the person; and
- b. be encouraging and not abusive in giving feedback.

#### **3. Maintain clear social boundaries:**

- a. attend sport related events such as sponsorship and fundraising events, celebrations and annual meetings but do not socialise with child players outside sporting functions; and
- b. do not socialise with child players via social media outside your capacity as Club Personnel.

#### **4. Maintain clear sexual boundaries:**

- a. do not have sexual relationships with child players you are coaching; and
- b. do not touch child players in ways likely to make them feel uncomfortable.

#### **5. Minimise physical contact:**

Generally, physical contact with child players should be to:

- a. develop football skills;
- b. give sports massage (but only to the extent required by your role);
- c. treat an injury;
- d. prevent or respond to an injury; and
- e. meet the specific requirements of football.

All physical contact by Club Personnel with child players should fulfil the following criteria:

- a. physical contact should be appropriate for the development of football skills;
- b. permission from the child player should always be sought; and
- c. child players should be congratulated or comforted in public and not in an isolated setting.

#### **6. Avoid being alone with a child:**

To protect yourself and the child player from risk:

- a. do not isolate yourself and a child and avoid being alone with any particular child;
- b. if a child approaches you and wants to talk to you privately about a matter, do so in an open area and in sight of other adults (e.g. other coaches, officials or parents/guardians); and
- c. before going into change rooms knock or announce that you will be coming in. Try to have at least one adult with you in a change room with children.



## **7. Breach of policy**

Alleged breaches of this policy should be reported to the President of the CGFC Committee. A breach of this policy may result in disciplinary action from the VAFA or CGFC Committee, at their discretion given the circumstances.

---

**Dated: 12 March 2025**

**Pursuant to Committee Resolution passed on 11 March 2025.**