

WCB VISION

WE CARE ABOUT OUR STUDENTS AT
WEEROONA COLLEGE BENDIGO AND
WE HELP THEM TO THRIVE



Phone | 5443 2133
Absence Line | 4433 4911

www.weeroona.vic.edu.au
weeroona.co@edumail.vic.gov.au

PO Box 566 | BENDIGO | Victoria 3552
383 Napier Street | BENDIGO | Victoria 3550

UPCOMING EVENTS

Issue #10 28th November 2019

OPEN HOURS

SCHOOL

Start 9.00am
Lunch 11.45am -12.35pm
Recess 1.45pm - 2.05pm
Finish 3.15pm

OFFICE

Monday – Thursday
8.15am – 4.15pm
Friday
8.15am - 4.00pm

UNIFORMS - NOONE

Monday to Friday 9:00am - 5:00pm
Saturday 10:00am - 1:00pm

21 Queen Street Bendigo.
(03) 5440 5600

DECEMBER	2019
2nd-6th	Year 10 BSSC Step up
5th	Year 10 Graduation Dinner
10th	Grade 6 Orientation Day
11th	Awards Night 7pm at Ulumbrra Theatre
16th-18th	Community Activities
19th	Pool Day
20th	LAST DAY—Clean up day—1.30pm finish
JANUARY	2020
Mid	Start up day packs mailed out
21st	Book collection Day
28th	Administration Office—Opens 11.30
29th	Start Up Day Interview 4am—8pm (Book on Compass)
30th	Start up Day Interviews 9-1pm
31st	1st Day of Classes for 2020

CONTACTS

PRINCIPAL

Leanne Preece

ASSISTANT PRINCIPALS

Jason Bysouth
Anton Van Maanen (BFLO)

WELLBEING TEAM

Welfare | Julie Nicol
Welfare | Bridget Chambers
Chaplain | Carl Rusbridge
Nurse | Tammy Nancarrow

KATYIL

COMMUNITY LEADERS
Jack McIntosh
Marion Stewart

LEARNING ADVISORS

L7A Scott Nicholls
L7B Matt Reeves
L8A Meryl Hayes
L8B Michael Wood
L9A Kate Flanders
L1A Brian Edebohls
L1B Nadine Harper

WANNOP

COMMUNITY LEADERS
Kariil Winzar
James Ginnivan

LEARNING ADVISORS

W7A Alex Madden
W7B Gabby Sidhu
W8A Mark Adams
W8B Paul Oshea
W9A Monica White
W1A Ryan Currie
W1B Chloe Neath

MERIN

COMMUNITY LEADERS
Laura Mow
Trent Bysouth

LEARNING ADVISORS

M7A Christine Edgar
M7B Simone Godfrey
M8A Carly Whitlock
M8B Ryan Pollard
M9A Kierny McKemmish
M9B Jian Luo
M1A Chris Emond

KAPPEN

COMMUNITY LEADERS
Sophie Alford
Luke Freeman

LEARNING ADVISORS

K7A Bree McKern
K7B Sarah Baldwin
K8A Liam Ireland
K9A Geoff Dempster
K9B Leigh Schroeter
K1A Tara Pocklington

FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Dear Parents/Carers and Students,

It's hard to believe that in just over four weeks we will be at the end of the 2019 school year. Hard to believe because there is still so much that can be achieved this year and lots of planning also occurring for the 2020 school year.

A reminder to Year Ten students that you should be well into studying for your end of Semester Two exams. We wish you well for these exams and your upcoming transition to Bendigo Senior Secondary College.

To all students in Years Seven to Nine, we expect that you will continue to be engaged in your learning until the end of your scheduled classes and this means full attendance and participation in all lessons.

I would like to wish Ms Trew and all of the students participating in the four week World Challenge Expedition to Borneo. They have all been working hard over the past 18 months to prepare physically as well as fund raise for their trip. They will experience a world of challenges, from venturing out into barren landscapes, boldly tackling tough treks, managing budgets, booking accommodation and taking care of logistics right through to contributing to community led initiatives. These are the kinds of life changing experiences that students walk away from with a enriched view of self and a new found confidence to take on the world.

Ms Leanne Preece

Principal



FROM THE ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL

Child Safe

Weeroona College Bendigo is a Child Safe School

The Child Safe Standards work by changing organisational culture to embed child safety in everyday thinking and practice. They aim to:

- Promote the safety of children
- Prevent child abuse
- Ensure organisations have processes in place to respond to and report all allegations of child abuse.

Weeroona College Bendigo has established and implemented our Child Protection Program in accordance with the Victorian Child Safe Standards (the Standards). The Standards are important because they ensure that our school is well prepared to protect our young people from abuse and neglect. Following on from the last edition of our newsletter, I would like to let you know what standard five means and what WCB has done to address this standard.

Child Safe Standard 5: Processes for responding to and reporting suspected child abuse

Organisations have a responsibility to promote and provide an environment in which children, staff and volunteers are encouraged to speak up when they are uncomfortable or concerned.

This includes:

- recognising that the safety of children is everyone's responsibility
- having a clear procedure for reporting concerns and allegations
- encouraging children to report if they feel unsafe or concerned
- making people within the organisation aware of their duty of care and legal responsibilities
- appropriately acting on concerns and complaints
- keeping and securely storing accurate records.

Weeroona College Bendigo has completed the following actions:

We have developed, and the Principal has approved, a Child Safety Responding and Reporting Obligations (including Mandatory Reporting) policy and procedures.

The Child Safety Responding and Reporting Obligations (including Mandatory Reporting) policy and procedures has been made publicly available and accessible via our website.

We publicly display information about the Four Critical Actions on school grounds (see attachment in the back of the newsletter).

Jason Bysouth

Assistant Principal

ADMINISTRATION

2020 Booklist

Information has been posted to all families. Booklist orders need to be completed online with Education Plus by Friday, 6th December.

Booklist collection day will be held on Tuesday 21st January at Weeroona College Bendigo.

End of year celebration/awards evening

Weeroona College Bendigo will be celebrating the year that was 2019 at a celebration/awards evening at Ulumbarra Theatre on Wednesday 11th Dec. Invitations to award recipients will be posted out in the coming weeks. We look forward to celebrating with many students, teachers, family and friends.

Pool Day

Pool Day will be Thursday 19th December – consent on Compass – canteen will be open for icy poles and drinks, students are to bring their own lunch - remember sunscreen



End of Semester Reports

School reports will be posted home on Friday 20th December 2019

2020 Start Up Day packs

2020 Start Up Day packs will be posted in early/mid January 2020, Appointment times with your child's advisor can be made from **Monday 21st January 2019 on Compass.**

Start Up Day interviews

Start Up Day interviews will be held on Wednesday 29th January 2020 4-8pm and Thursday 30th January 2020 9am-1pm

Start Dates

Students 1st day of classes for 2020 is Friday 31st January 2020.

The Administration Office and the IT Department will reopen on Tuesday 28th January 2020 at 11.30am.

Student Absence

Letters will be sent home monthly to advise families of outstanding absences, could you please ensure these are completed and returned as soon as possible, any queries please contact Wendy or Martine in the Administration Office on 5443 2133

Contact Details

If you have changed your contact details (postal address, email address, telephone number etc), please email Weeroona College Bendigo at – weeroona.co@edumail.vic.gov.au or in person at the Administration Office

CAMP LOST PROPERTY

Year 8 Lorne Camp - Foam Mattress

If you have left this behind please come to the Administration Office to collect.

ATTENDANCE

The end of year is fast approaching. If your student has any outstanding unexplained absences, we ask that you return the absence letter with a brief explanation, in the reply paid envelope enclosed. We understand that sometimes the absence is a little more complicated, in this case, please call the Administration Office and speak with either Martine or Wendy to discuss this further.

ATTENDANCE MATTERS

Compass Kiosk is now being fully utilised at the Student Services window when students are signing in and out.

If your student is arriving or departing outside of normal school hours, an explanation is required from the student's parent/carer. This can be done in the following ways:

- Log onto Compass and record the absence
- Phone the Administration Office on 5443 2133 (press 1) to leave a message or (press 2) to speak with an attendance officer
- Write a note with an explanation to be handed in by your student to the Administration Office

Our IT staff are always available and happy to guide you through any Compass assistance needed to be able to explain absences quickly and efficiently. They can also help with setting up the App on your phone or electronic device. It is worth seeking assistance with Compass as this is the program that is also used by Bendigo Senior Secondary College.

Unexplained absence letters are sent home every month with a reply paid envelope for your convenience. Absence explanations must come from a student's parent/carer. It is important to return these letters as soon as possible to avoid receiving them every month for the same absences.

If you have any queries, please do not hesitate in calling the Administration Office and speaking to either myself, or Wendy in attendance.

Martine Elms

Attendance Officer

LITERACY NEWS



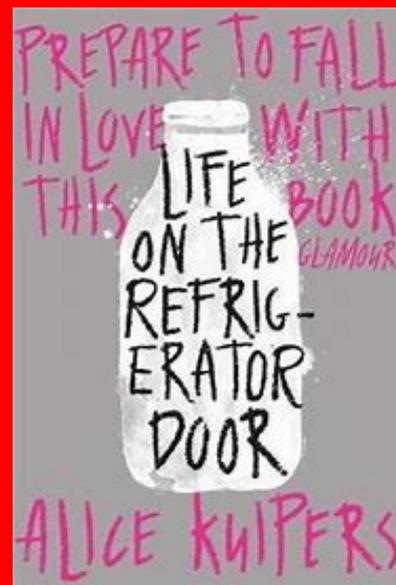
HELPING YOUR CHILD WITH LITERACY AT HOME:

Research shows one of the most powerful ways you can support children's literacy development is to encourage them to undertake independent reading with texts suited to their interests and reading level. 20 minutes each day has a huge impact on reading abilities. Encourage your child to visit our Global Learning Centre and borrow from our wonderfully resourced library. Our library staff are experts in motivating readers and guiding book choices. If Santa comes to your house over the summer holidays hopefully he might leave a book as a present.

Life on the Refrigerator Door:

"It's an easy read and is based on something real that we can connect with."

Matika, Caprice and Dakota



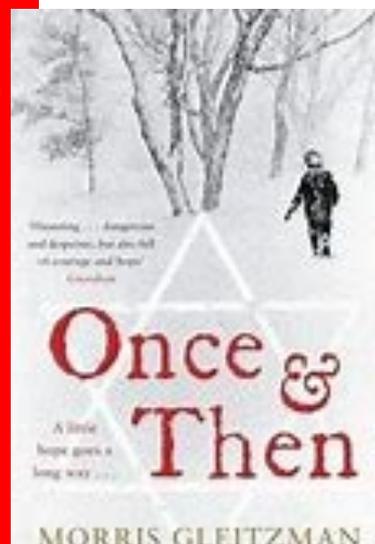
Once and Then:

"The main character doesn't give up which makes you want to keep reading it."

AJ and Eddie

"Six - T"his book is written cleverly because the chapters are told from all the main characters points of view. It's really interesting."

Kade



The Court of Thorns and Roses:

“It’s a great series with an very well thought out storyline and great character development.”

Lor Shee and Locklan



Leading Literacy:

Our Literacy Leaders have recently completed the Leading Literacy program through the Bastow Institute of Educational Leadership. This course has provided a boost to curriculum across all learning areas with initiatives such as a focus on reading comprehension skills and vocabulary. The English Learning Area has implemented differentiated reading units with a focus on reading conferences as well as embedding low stakes writing activities into units of work. Thank you to the team for their dedication to completing this course and to all our staff who are committed to implementing this professional learning into their lessons in order to improve the literacy skills of our students.

MACQLIT for struggling students:

At the beginning of 2020 we have a team of staff undertaking training in the MacqLit program designed by the Macquarie University. The program is an explicit and systematic reading intervention program for small groups of older low-progress readers. English staff have identified students who would benefit from a boost of reading skill building for this team to work with in classes, within small groups and individually. We plan to see this in action Term 1.

Premiers' Reading Challenge Celebration Lunch

On Tuesday the 12th of November, all 65 WCB students who successfully completed the Premiers' Reading Challenge were invited to the library for a celebration lunch. Students were awarded their participation certificates and some extraordinary prizes were also distributed. Whilst all 65 students ought to be congratulated on their outstanding reading efforts, a special mention needs to go to Tha Oo, one of our school captains, who has completed the Premiers' Reading Challenge 9 years in a row. The following students were also awarded extra commendations:

Premiers' Reading Challenge Champions

Amelia Bourke
Alisha Dominguez
Destiney Seymour
Charli Seymour
Bella Prolongeau
Isabella Johnson
Zachary Wright
Jessica McNeill
Richard Hlaing
Paige Morley
Seraya Crozier
Kristy Russell

Outstanding Reading Awards

Destiney Seymour
Alisha Dominguez
Zachary Wright
Seraya Crozier
Tha Oo



Woolworths Earn and Learn

Earlier on in the year, Woolworths ran its Earn and Learn Program which the Weeroona College Bendigo Community wholeheartedly got behind. As part of this program, the stickers that were generously donated were traded for school equipment and supplies. As part of this program over 475,000 pieces of equipment have been delivered this term to schools all across Australia. The Makerspace, in the library, was lucky to receive Magnetic Construction sets, jewellery making tools, decks of Uno cards and a whole assortment of stationery including: ribbons, paint brushes, coloured paper, polymer clay, fabric markers, pipe cleaners, biodegradable straws, mosaic foam shapes and plastic art trays. All of this equipment will be used to run STEAM activities and events in the Makerspace during lunch and recess times throughout 2020. We would like to sincerely thank all the generous students and their families who participated in this program.



The Makerspace – Remembrance Day

The Makerspace often offers thematic based STEAM activities and this term we ran a series of activities associated with Remembrance Day. This year students could contribute to a fingerprint poppy collage, construct poppies out of patty pans and craft supplies for a wreath, complete a related word search/colouring page or read one of our many picture story books designed for older audiences. These communal projects will join those made by students in previous years, on display in the college's Art Gallery Space.



Returning Resources to the GLC

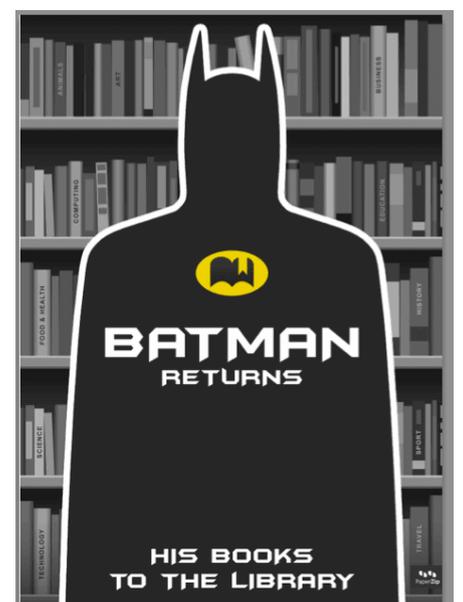
As it is Term Four, the GLC staff would like to remind students that they need to start finding and potentially returning resources they have borrowed out over the course of the year. This message is particularly pertinent for our current Year 10 students as they finish at WCB much earlier than other year levels. We would greatly appreciate it if students could adhere to the following timeline:

Year 10 students need to return their books by the 25th of November.

Year 7-9 students need to return their books by 12th December.

Returning books by these dates allows us enough time to clean, organise and stocktake all of the GLC's resources in preparation for the following year.

If you have borrowed out books, but you are unable to locate them then you need to visit the library and talk to one of the librarians about the process for replacing lost/damaged books.





Purtill's Nursery Pty. Ltd.

W.C.B WAT GARDEN – THANK YOU PURTILL'S WHOLESALE NURSERY

The WAT (Weeroona Alternative Timetable) crew have been busy weeding, cultivating and planting a variety of seasonal vegetables and fruits kindly donated by Purtill's Wholesale Nursery. Purtill's have been fantastic in their generosity supplying a vast range of seedlings for this season and over the past three years.

This year's crop has a wide range including strawberries, lettuce, onion, tomatoes, bok choy, cucumber, zucchini, carrots, capsicum, chilli, silverbeet, rocket, beans and a variety of other plants.

Again, thanks to Purtill's for their fantastic generosity.

Shawn McCormick

WAT Leader





MINYIP – NORTH WESTERN ZONE CLAY TARGET COMPETITION

Well done to, Ryan Clark, who represented Weeroona College Bendigo at the North Western Zone Clay Target Championships held in Minyip on Monday 21st October. Ryan shot very well scoring 10 out of 12 in the first round followed by 6 out of 12 in the final round.



Ryan Clark in action.



SPORTSFORCE ADVANCE RECOGNITION EVENING

The college is lucky enough each year to be involved in the State Government Advance Program where we receive some funding for a variety of initiatives and programs. 2019 has seen funding purchase Sportsforce Advance uniforms, pay for transport for Sportsforce Advance assistance days, help in the funding of a Blue Light Boxing Program and provide assistance for participants involved in the World Challenge trip to Borneo.

Over 120 students have done a sterling job throughout the course of the year in the Sportsforce Advance program where students have been great ambassadors by assisting at both primary and secondary school sporting competitions and carnivals. As a result we will be having a recognition dinner for the participants from 6pm until 7.15pm on Thursday 28th November on the College grounds. An external caterer will be proving a meal for all participants. All who helped out throughout the year have been notified. No cost is involved in this evening. However, those wishing to attend need to reply on Compass so we can get a definitive idea of numbers for catering purposes. Again, well done to all involved in the program.



Sportsforce Advance Participants throughout 2019

S.McCormick

ENERGY BREAKTHROUGH

What a weekend it was in Maryborough this year!

All of the students who attended the event were incredible, making all of us at the college proud. The weather was perfect, the nights were much colder than we were expecting and the racing was spectacular. All teams scored very well in their Display, Presentations and Scrutineering. As well as fighting hard in the 24hr trial, our senior team 'Whippy' came in 2nd, our junior team 'Boomerang' finished in 1st place and our development team 'Intimidator' finished 11th our new EEV 'KILLAWATT' had some trouble for the first part of the race, but never gave up and with the help of BSSC and Girton we got on the track and managed to complete 100 laps before the gearbox failed, which was repaired but failed again resulting in an earlier finish than we expected. All of the team members showed resilience and learnt a lot about the vehicle and can only improve next year. The results for Whippy and Boomerang are an incredible way to cap off a great year, as we experienced success all throughout the Vic Series.

The overall results for the Energy Breakthrough were:

Whippy – Runners up

Boomerang – Third Place

Intimidator – Twelfth Place

Killawatt – Fifth Place

These results are a combination of scores from the Trial (out of 50), Display and Presentation (25) and Design and Scrutineering (25).

We couldn't be more proud of the way this amazing group of kids conduct themselves whether things are going well or not. A truly remarkable group.

We need to say a huge thank you to our brilliant parents who are always there supporting the students and teachers.

Huge thankyou to our fantastic sponsors:

J+K Law

JCH Mechanical Services

Fit Republic

Wheelie Clean Bins

J.L King and Co

White Hills Takeaway

Fit Republic

High St Xray

Simonds Homes

Bendigo Embroidery Service

Lactalis Australia

Your support is appreciated by all of us!

Finally, a massive thank you to everyone at the Energy Breakthrough. The organisers and volunteers were fantastic in dealing with a crazy weekend. Bring on next year, four trikes one team!

Jack McIntosh

Energy Breakthrough Leader



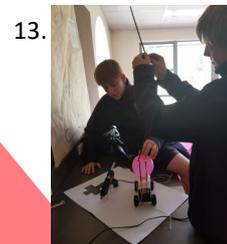
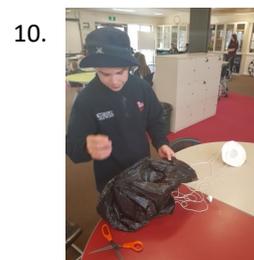
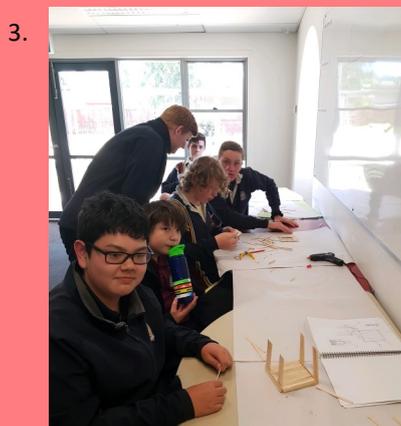
EBT PHOTOS BY BAILLIE BENNETT



STEM

With a focus on reducing, reusing and recycling the Earth's precious resources, STEM students have been given challenges to design and build various projects.

1. In preparation for when she builds a full size model using recycled materials, Claudia of L8A proudly displays her loft bed she built with paddle-pop sticks. Bonus points for your creative bed spread and pillow, Claudia.
2. Claudia was not the only L8A student to show creative talent in design and build, but was the only one willing to be in the photo. Well done to all.
3. Creative collaboration and work
4. Jett puts final touches on his picnic bench whilst Zane watches on.
- 5, 6, 7, 8, 9. Following their science unit on Earth in space, students of L7A display the space craft that they each researched, designed and built. These craft included an Apollo rocket, Mars rovers and UFO's.
10. Lachie of K7A has designed and built a parachute system to safely land a free-falling space capsule.
11. Scarlett from K7A tests the effect wind resistance has on falling objects.
12. Students of K7A work together to complete their air resistance tests
13. Brad and Jay of K7A have joined forces to create the space vehicle that their parachute system will land.



FOUR CRITICAL ACTIONS FOR SCHOOLS

Responding to Incidents, Disclosures and Suspicions of Child Abuse

1 RESPONDING TO AN EMERGENCY

If there is no risk of immediate harm go to **Action 2**

If a child is at immediate risk of harm you **must** ensure their safety by:

- separating alleged victims and others involved
- administering first aid
- calling **000 for urgent medical and/or police assistance** to respond to immediate health or safety concerns
- identifying a contact person at the school for future liaison with Police.

Where necessary you may also need to maintain the integrity of the potential crime scene and preserve evidence.

2 REPORTING TO AUTHORITIES / REFERRING TO SERVICES

As soon as immediate health and safety concerns are addressed, you **must** report all incidents, suspicions and disclosures of child abuse as soon as possible. Failure to report physical and sexual child abuse may amount to a criminal offence.

← Q: Where does the source of suspected abuse come from? →

WITHIN THE SCHOOL

VICTORIA POLICE
You **must** report all instances of suspected child abuse involving a school staff member, contractor, volunteer or visitor to Victoria Police.

You **must also** report internally to:

- **GOVERNMENT SCHOOLS**
- School principal and/or leadership team
- Employee Conduct Branch
- DET Incident Support and Operations Centre
- **CATHOLIC SCHOOLS**
- Diocesan education office.
- School principal and/or leadership team
- **INDEPENDENT SCHOOLS**
- School principal and/or school chairperson
- Commission for Children and Young People on **1300 782 978**.

WITHIN THE FAMILY OR COMMUNITY

DHHS CHILD PROTECTION

You **must** report to DHHS Child Protection if a child is considered to be:

- in need of protection from child abuse
- at risk of being harmed (or has been harmed) and the harm has had, or is likely to have, a serious impact on the child's safety, stability or development.

VICTORIA POLICE

You **must also** report all instances of suspected sexual abuse (including grooming) to Victoria Police.

You **must also** report internally to:

- **GOVERNMENT SCHOOLS**
- School principal and/or leadership team
- DET Incident Support and Operations Centre
- **CATHOLIC SCHOOLS**
- School principal and/or leadership team
- Diocesan education office.
- **INDEPENDENT SCHOOLS**
- School principal and/or chairperson.

All allegations of 'reportable conduct' **must** be reported as soon as possible to:

- **GOVERNMENT SCHOOLS**
- Employee Conduct Branch
- **CATHOLIC SCHOOLS**
- Diocesan education office
- **INDEPENDENT SCHOOLS**
- Commission for Children and Young People on **1300 782 978**.

YOU MUST TAKE ACTION

- You **must** act by following the Four Critical Actions, as soon as you witness an incident, receive a disclosure or form a reasonable belief* that a child has, or is at risk of being abused.
- You **must** act if you form a suspicion/ reasonable belief, even if you are unsure and have not directly observed child abuse (eg. if the victim or another person tells you about the abuse).
- It is strongly recommended that you use the **Responding to Suspected Child Abuse template** to keep clear and comprehensive notes, even if you make a decision not to report.

* A reasonable belief is a deliberately low threshold. This enables authorities to investigate and take action.

3 CONTACTING PARENTS/CARERS

For suspected student sexual assault, please follow the **Four Critical Actions: Student Sexual Offending**.

Your principal **must** consult with DHHS Child Protection or Victoria Police to determine what information can be shared with parents/carers. They may advise:

- **not to contact** the parents/carer (eg. in circumstances where the parents are alleged to have engaged in the abuse, or the child is a mature minor and does not wish for their parent/carer to be contacted)
- **to contact** the parents/carers and provide agreed information (this must be done as soon as possible, preferably on the same day of the incident, disclosure or suspicion)
- **how to communicate** with all relevant parties with consideration for their safety.

4 PROVIDING ONGOING SUPPORT

Your school **must** provide support for children impacted by abuse. This should include the development of a **Student Support Plan** in consultation with wellbeing professionals. This is an essential part of your duty of care requirements.

Strategies may include development of a safety plan, direct support and referral to wellbeing professionals and support.

You **must** follow the **Four Critical Actions** every time you become aware of a further instance or risk of abuse. This includes reporting new information to authorities.

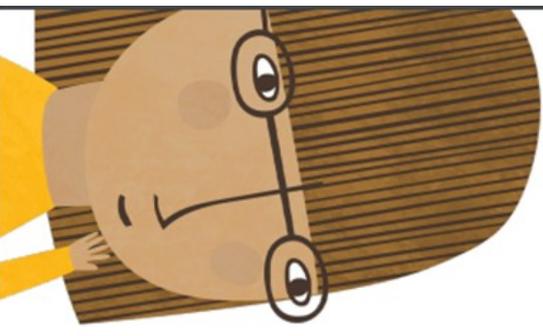
OTHER CONCERNS

If you believe that a child is not subject to abuse, but you still hold **significant concerns** for their wellbeing, you **must** still act. This may include making a referral or seeking advice from:

- Child FIRST/The Orange Door (in circumstances where the family are open to receiving support)
- DHHS Child Protection
- Victoria Police.

CONTACT

- **DHHS CHILD PROTECTION AREA**
- North Division **1300 664 977**
- South Division **1300 655 795**
- East Division **1300 360 391**
- West Division (rural) **1800 075 599**
- West Division (metro) **1300 664 977**
- **AFTER HOURS**
- After hours, weekends, public holidays **13 12 78**
- **CHILD FIRST**
- <https://services.dhhs.vic.gov.au/referal-and-support-teams>
- **ORANGE DOOR**
- <https://www.vic.gov.au/familyviolence/the-orange-door.html>
- **VICTORIA POLICE**
- 000 or your local police station
- **DET INCIDENT SUPPORT AND OPERATIONS CENTRE**
- **1800 126 126**
- **INCIDENT MANAGEMENT AND SUPPORT UNIT**
- **1800 126 126**
- **EMPLOYEE CONDUCT BRANCH**
- **(03) 9637 2595**
- **DIOCESAN OFFICE**
- Melbourne **(03) 9267 0228**
- Ballarat **(03) 5337 7135**
- Sale **(03) 5622 6600**
- Sandhurst **(03) 5443 2377**
- **INDEPENDENT SCHOOLS VICTORIA**
- **(03) 9625 7200**
- **THE LOOKOUT**
- The LOOKOUT has a service directory, information, and evidence based guidance to help you respond to family violence: <http://www.lookout.org.au>
- Family violence victims/survivors can be referred to **1800 Respect** for counselling, information and a referral service: **1800 737 732**.



2019 YEARBOOK

ONLY
\$15



ALL YOUR FAVOURITE MOMENTS OF 2019

*AVAILABLE NOW IN ADMIN OFFICE

