

# CHILDREN AT RISK POLICY

## Rationale

- Some children will enter school with an identified need for which they are eligible for funding under the Program for Students with Disabilities.
- Some children may be identified through the school referral process and relevant testing to be emotionally, socially or academically at risk.
- This need may emerge sometime after the child has commenced school.
- Disability funding may or may not transfer with the children from the feeder primary school.

## Purpose

- To ensure Tarneit West Primary School (Interim Name) has a specific plan to engage children at risk and to cater for their needs.
- To ensure the school complies with Department of Education and Training (DET) policy and guidelines.
- To ensure the school complies with Child Safe Standards 1 & 2.

## Definitions

“Children at Risk” are children who have been identified with special learning needs and require alternative consideration and program modification for them to reach their potential.

## Implementation

- The school will establish a formal collaborative process for referral of children suspected of being at risk.
- If the school receives a child deemed at risk, the principal will perform a risk assessment and develop an Action Plan that involves parents/carers, staff, guidance officers, the child and any other party.  
Note: Where there is a foreseeable risk, the transferring principal is required to collect evidence from school records, CASES21 incident reports, specific program information for the child or other relevant information provided by school staff and update the transfer note with the circumstances relevant to the risk such as known triggers that escalate the risk and actions known to lessen or remove the risk.  
Parents/carers must be informed, but their consent is not required for documenting foreseeable risk information or including this information on the transfer note.  
Privacy provisions require that staff keep the information confidential.
- If deemed appropriate, external agencies will be engaged to provide professional input into the identification of the needs of the child.
- All children at risk will be supported through a support group.
- The parent/carer, child if applicable, and all persons working with the child will be members.
- The support group will meet at least twice yearly for the purpose of developing and/or reviewing the child’s Individual Learning Plan.
- Please refer also to the school’s Student Engagement Policy, the Transfers Policy, the Wellbeing & Learning Policy and the Child Safe Standards.

## Evaluation

- This policy will be reviewed as part of the school’s three-year review cycle or if guidelines change (no DET A-Z Index reference).

<u>Ratification</u>	<u>Review Date</u>	<u>Policy Number</u>	<u>Version Number</u>	<u>Date Produced</u>
October 2017	2018	18	1	September 2017

