Melbourne Church of Christ

PO Box 305, Doncaster, VIC 3108

A.C.N: 111 933 325
A.B.N: 24 111 933 325

Reportable Conduct Scheme

The Reportable Conduct Scheme seeks to improve organisations' responses to allegations of child abuse and neglect by their workers and volunteers. The Scheme is established by the *Child Wellbeing and Safety Act 2005*
On the church website under the Contact Us page https://www.melbournecoc.org/contact-us.html the following information is communicated.

Reportable Conduct Scheme
Melbourne Church of Christ cares deeply about the welfare of children and young people and participates in the Reportable Conduct Scheme, willingly and as required by law.
We strongly encourage anyone with information or reasonable belief that a child is or may be abused by a member of our community to report this to our directors in person or email ***report.conduct@melbournecoc.org*** *. The directors are bound by the Reportable Conduct Scheme to treat your allegation sincerely and confidentially, discharging* ***responsibilities****.*
Alternatively, should you not feel safe reporting to the church, submissions regarding child safety may be made directly at Social Services Regulator via https://rcs.ssr.vic.gov.au/
If you are aware of an immediate threat to the safety of any person, please contact emergency services on 000.

What is reportable conduct?
There are five types of reportable conduct:
1. sexual offences
2. sexual misconduct
3. physical violence
4. behaviour that causes significant emotional or psychological harm to a child
5. significant neglect of a child

What is a reasonable belief?
A reportable allegation is made where a person makes an allegation, based on a reasonable belief, that a worker or volunteer has committed reportable conduct or misconduct that ***may*** involve reportable conduct. This includes where a reportable allegation is made against the head of the organisation.
A reasonable belief is more than suspicion. There must be some objective basis for the belief. However, it is not the same as having proof and does not require certainty.
For example, a person is likely to have a reasonable belief if they:
- observed the conduct themselves
- heard directly from a child that the conduct occurred
- received information from another credible source (including another witness).

Heads of entity do not need to agree with or share the belief that the alleged conduct has occurred. However, they do not need to notify the Commission about the allegation if it is plainly wrong or has no basis at all in reality.

Concerned or wish to get advice

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If you are concerned by an interaction you have had with another person, or observed an interaction with a child or are concerned with any behaviour towards children and feel you need advice you may speak directly to the Kids Kingdom Coordinators, Elders or Directors.

Community members or service users raising a concern relating to the **Social Services Standards**, the **Child Safe Standards**, or the **Reportable Conduct Scheme** can email contact@ssr.vic.gov.au(opens in a new window) or call 1300 310 778.