

## **Child Safe Officers**

## Do you have a child safety concern?

Dandenong Ranges Steiner School has appointed the people listed below as the School's Child Safety Officers. Each Child Safety Officer is available to answer any questions that you may have with respect to our Child Safe Policy and the Child Safety Program.

Child Safety Officers are selected based on a number of considerations, namely:

- their personal attitudes, experiences and beliefs, for example, a person who is nonjudgmental, calm, resilient and demonstrates a high degree of integrity and respect for confidentiality
- their role within the School, for example, a person who has seniority and experience working with complex student and family issues at the School and someone who is readily accessible and available to all members of the School community
- their personal profile within the School, for example, a person who is approachable, who students and staff trust and who is willing and able to respond to issues personally and sensitively.

The School's Child Safety Officers can be your first point of contact for reporting Child Safety issues within the School.

If you have any concern that a child may be experiencing any form of <u>abuse</u>, whether or not you have formed a belief on reasonable grounds that the abuse has occurred, you should immediately raise your concerns with one of our Child Safety Officers. Please be aware that consulting with a Child Safety Officer does not change any obligation you have under legislation to report to an external authority. Refer to our <u>Procedures for Responding to and Reporting Allegations of Child Abuse</u>.

The welfare and best interests of the child are paramount. Whenever there are concerns that a child is in immediate danger the Police should be called on 000.

Our Child Safety Officers are:

Karin Penny and Dana Jindra

## **Our Senior Child Safety Officer**

Dandenong Ranges Steiner School has appointed Dana Jindra as the School's Senior Child Safety Officer. The Senior Child Safety Officer has an important role in the promotion and maintenance of our Child Safety culture at the School.

The Senior Child Safety Officer is identified in our publicly available <u>Child Safe Policy</u> as a contact for the wider community when they have Child Safety concerns relating to the School. The Senior Child Safety Officer is contactable by phone on 8790 4797 or by emailing <u>education@drss.vic.edu.au</u>.