

Volunteers Induction Pack – Child Safety

Ratification Date: Update by RNS Principal 02/2023 RNS Board 15/03/2023	Next Review: By 1 July 2024 or after an event or changes to the minimum standards as advised by the VRQA	Availability: <table><tr><td>Web</td><td>X</td></tr><tr><td>Office</td><td>X</td></tr><tr><td>On Request</td><td>X</td></tr></table>	Web	X	Office	X	On Request	X	Actions:
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SCHOOL CONTEXT

River Nile School (RNS) is a specialist reengagement senior-secondary school for young women who are Humanitarian refugees and new arrivals to Australia. In general, our school's students are highly vulnerable with backgrounds of complex trauma in their lives. Most RNS students live as independent young adults, and those with parents/carers commonly have parents/carers who are also new to Australia, with low levels of English oracy and literacy and which are not yet well informed about child safety expectations and obligations in Australia. Some RNS students have significant responsibilities as young parents or carers/guardians of younger siblings.

PURPOSE

Thank you for your interest in volunteering at our school. The purpose of this induction pack is to ensure River Nile School volunteers are familiar with our policies and procedures relating to child safety and understand the important role they play in maintaining and promoting the safety of our students. Volunteers must read the suite of policies and procedures in the links below before commencing any work where children are likely to be present.

KEY MESSAGES

- River Nile School is committed to the safety and wellbeing of all children/students. We want children/students attending our school to be safe, included, respected and happy.
- We are committed to creating an inclusive environment where diversity is supported and students feel safe to bring their whole selves to school.
- Allegations and concerns relating to the safety and wellbeing of our school community will be treated very seriously and consistently with our policies and procedures.
- We are committed to preventing child abuse, identifying risks early and removing and reducing these risks.
- Everyone has a role to ensure children/students are safe – if something doesn't feel right, speak up. If you have any concerns about any inappropriate behaviours in the school community you should speak to the Principal or Assistant Principal.

If this would not be appropriate in the circumstances, you can contact the North West Regional Office of the Department of Education and Training on 1300 338 691.

INDUCTION MATERIALS – MUST READ

This induction pack contains the following documents that all new volunteers must read and familiarise themselves with. Please go to the RNS website (<http://www.rivernileschool.vic.edu.au/policies>) or click on the hyperlinks to access each document. If you would prefer a hard copy of this pack, please contact the team in our office who will happily print one for you.

- Volunteers Policy
- Child Safety Policy
- Child Safety Responding and Reporting Obligations Policy and Procedures

- Child Safety Code of Conduct
- [PROTECT: Four Critical Actions for Schools – Responding to incidents, disclosures and suspicions of child abuse](#)
- [PROTECT: Identify child abuse](#)

CONTACT

We value your feedback on ways we can continue to improve and strengthen our child safety approach and encourage you to contact the principal, Lisa Wilson with any comments or questions.

The River Nile School Inc.

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Reg. Inc. Assoc. No. A0048482L

Endorsed Charity & Deductible Gift Recipient

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