



# KILBERRY VALLEY PRIMARY SCHOOL

## Child Safe

### Empowerment and Participation of Children

**Children have the right to give their views and opinions about decisions that affect them and to be listened to.**

Empowerment is about helping children to have their say. Acting to empower children should always guide the work of Kilberry Valley Primary School. Participation is important for children because it gives them an opportunity to have a say about issues and decisions that affect them. Children are more likely to speak up about their concerns about feeling unsafe, or make a complaint, if they feel their views are valued and welcomed.

#### **Benefits of empowering & supporting the participation of children:**

- Participation and empowerment are vital components of a child safe school that benefits children, families and staff.
- Involving and consulting with children enables Kilberry Valley PS to improve its policies, practices and services as children provide a unique voice regarding what makes them feel safe and unsafe.
- Facilitating the empowerment and participation of children enhances a culture of child safety and listening to children within Kilberry Valley PS.
- Children and young people learn new skills, build self-esteem and develop an understanding of collaboration and rights.
- Children are more likely to report abuse or concerns if they feel safe and empowered in their school.
- Children feel their views are valued and listened to. Children are more likely to support the outcome if they have been involved.
- Increases engagement.
- Reduces absences.

**To encourage the empowerment & participation of children at Kilberry Valley PS, we aim to ensure all opportunities of participation and empowerment are:**

- With the support and supervision of skilful, trustworthy adults.
- Welcoming.
- Ethical.
- Supportive.
- Safe.
- Encouraging.
- Age appropriate and child friendly.
- Culturally respectful.
- Inclusive of a diverse range of children.
- Demonstrate respect for children of all ages, abilities, social and cultural backgrounds.
- Positive and fun.
- With clear, honest and realistic expectations and boundaries.

Some of the opportunities at Kilberry Valley PS to support the empowerment and participation of children include:

- Implementation of the School Values
- Student Attitude to School survey
- Bully Stopper program and individual student pledge, Bully Stopper bands
- Weekly Principal / School Captains lunch
- Student Leaders
  - School Captain
  - House Captains
  - Student Representative Council
  - Environmental Warriors
- Student Welfare Officer, Restorative Practice processes, Class meetings, Circle Time, rethink room, Whole school Golden rules, 6 steps behaviour management plan.
- Student lead inquiry learning, Student learning focus groups.
- Student self reflection, assessment and goal setting.
- You Can Do It.
- Strategies for Teaching based on Autism Research (STAR) program.
- Secret Agency Society.
- Mindfulness.
- Learning to Learn program.
- Inside play, Lunchtime league.
- Friendship Station.
- Kids Hope Mentor Program.
- Play Group, Tiny Toons, Family Language club.
- Life Education.
- SSSO Psychologist, Social Worker, Speech Pathologist, Social Worker.
- School employed Speech Pathologist, School Nurse.
- ICT usage agreements, Cyber Safety, eSmart school.
- Human Powered Vehicle Challenge.
- School musical.
- Assembly performances.
- Breakfast club.
- Kilberry Live – TV program.
- Harmony Day, Multicultural Day, School Fiesta, Boys on the Bounce.
- Swimming, Athletics Carnivals, Hooptime, Interschool sports, fun run.
- Incursions, Excursions, Camps (Year 3-6).
- Community Garden.
- Year 6 Market Stalls.