



DARLING DOWNS SCHOOL SPORT: STUDENT PROTECTION GUIDELINES



The immediate safety of a student is the foremost consideration. In the case of an emergency or where there is a concern that a child could be at immediate risk of harm, consider what actions may be necessary to protect the child. This could include calling Child Safety or police, or calling 000. Mandatory reporting obligations also apply as follows:

Form a suspicion

- A Regional team official / Convenor becomes aware or reasonably suspects the sexual abuse or likely sexual abuse of a child under 18yrs old **OR**
- forms reasonable suspicion that a child is suffering or is at risk of suffering significant harm* **and** may not have a parent able and willing to protect them
- Regional team official consults with their RSSO or the host RSSO

Consult

- If you suspect sexual abuse or likely sexual abuse, you must **immediately** report this to police in writing. If for any reason there could be a delay in providing a written report to police, call Policelink on 131 444 and let them know a report will be progressed in writing ASAP. If this is done, make sure you make notes of this.
- For cases of significant harm, Regional team official or RSSO to consult the online *Queensland Child Protection Guide* at <https://www.communities.qld.gov.au/> **to determine if a report to Child Safety is required**
- RSSO to consult with the Director of Regional Services (DRS) or Principal Advisor

Commence a Student Protection Report

- Report suspicions of sexual abuse or likely sexual abuse **immediately** to the QPS (see above) as per *Education (General Provisions) Act 2006*
- For cases of significant harm, if the threshold for reporting to Child Safety has been met, Regional team official or RSSO commences a Child Protection Report using the Department of Communities, Child Safety and Disability Services website <https://secure.communities.qld.gov.au/cbir/home/ChildSafety>
- If child is experiencing harm, contact Regional Intake Services 1300 682 254 (Brisbane)
- RSSO to contact the student's principal

After submitting a report

- Regional team official to continue to monitor and support the student while at the State Championship
- Regional team official to provide all notes to the RSSO for secure storage
- Regional team official / RSSO to collaborate with Child Safety, QPS and other agencies as per the *Student Protection Procedure*

*Harm can be caused by physical, psychological or emotional abuse or neglect, sexual abuse or exploitation. You must take action – refer to the *Student Protection Procedure* (DET employees) for more information

KEY CONTACTS

DD RSSO:

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