

Daniel Morcombe Child Safety Curriculum



Frequently asked questions

Q1. When will my child be taught the curriculum?

A1. The Prep – Year 2, Years 3 – 6, and Years 7 – 9 phases of the *Daniel Morcombe Child Safety Curriculum* (the Curriculum) are now available to all state and non-state schools. Uptake of the *Daniel Morcombe Child Safety Curriculum* is a decision made by individual schools in consultation with parents.

Q2. How is the Curriculum being taught to children?

A2. It will be taught using a series of lessons that develop safety knowledge and skills. Some of the lessons will use interactive whiteboards or hard copy flash cards showing images of safe and unsafe situations. Other resources include books, online resources, student worksheets, class safety books, discussion, scenarios and posters.

Q3. What does the Curriculum teach my child?

A3. It aims to help students develop knowledge and skills about personal safety by using three key messages: **Recognise, React and Report**. Students will be encouraged to recognise safety clues in their environment, consider safety options and report unsafe incidents.

Q4. Are there any cybersafety or cyberbullying lessons in the Curriculum?

A4. Yes. Students will learn about the potential safety risks of technology, including computers and phones. They will be taught to be wary about sharing personal information and to report when they are exposed to unsafe incidents.

Q5. How long will my child be learning about child safety?

A5. The Curriculum has been constructed around nine core lessons. The decisions about when and how often lessons will be taught are made by individual teachers. The teacher may choose to teach the content across short multiple segments or they may choose to

consolidate the learning using additional lessons with some of the suggested extension activities.

Q6. Are there any sex education elements in the Curriculum?

A6. No. The Curriculum primarily aligns with the Health and Physical Education curriculum and strongly encourages children to get help when they are faced with situations that could harm them physically, psychologically or emotionally. Students are taught to use anatomical language for private body parts to remove the shame and embarrassment often associated with discussing genitalia.

Q7. Can parents do anything about safety at home?

A7. Yes. Parents are encouraged to talk to their child about what they are learning in class. To help parents with this, a Parent Guide for each phase is available online at www.education.qld.gov.au/child-safety-curriculum. Students in Prep – Year 2 may also be given illustrated Recognise, React and Report postcards to help inform parents when the key safety messages are being delivered in the class. All students are encouraged to take home class-completed worksheets or activities to share with their families.

Q8. Is the Curriculum compulsory?

A8. No. While it is strongly encouraged and recommended that the program be adopted by every Queensland school, it is not compulsory.

Q9. Can a child be withdrawn from the program?

A9. It is recommended that any decision to withdraw a student from the program be made in consultation with the school principal.

Q10. Who can I talk to about the Curriculum?

A10. Parents are encouraged to discuss the Curriculum with their child's school principal or teacher. Information about the Curriculum is also included in the Parent Guide.