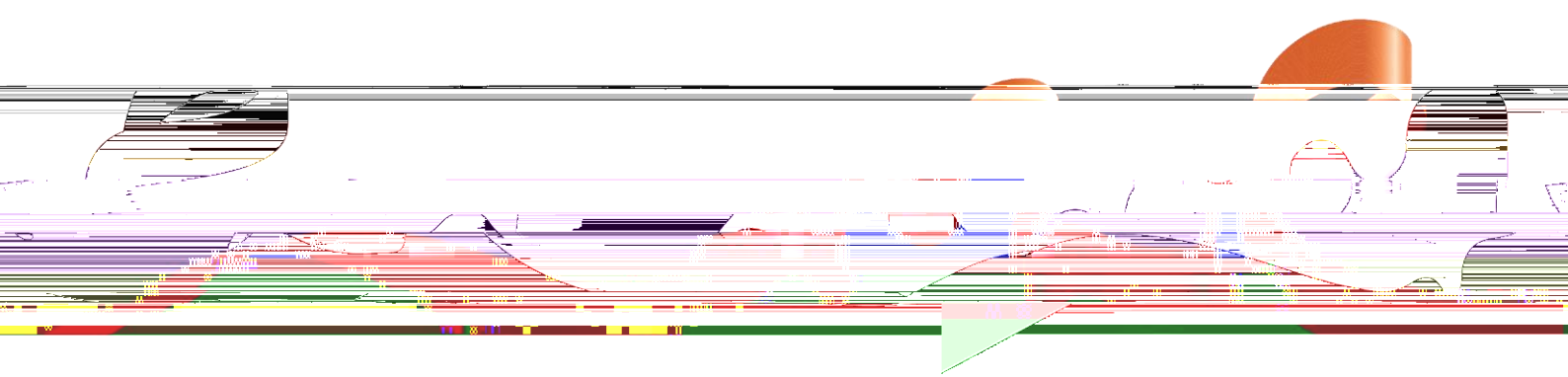
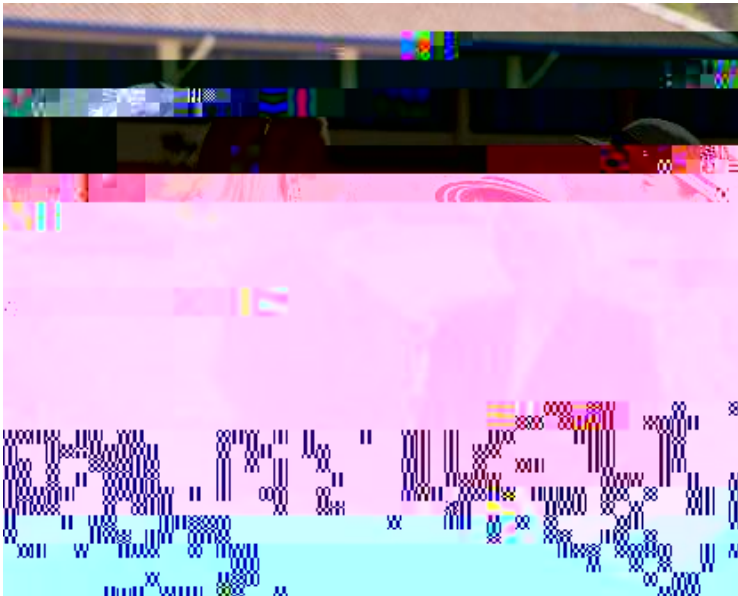




Homestay Risk Management Strategy 2024



LEGISLATION AND DEFINITIONS

Legislation

-

SSC expects homestay families to conduct themselves as follows:

Homestay families are expected to always behave in ways that promote the safety, welfare and well-

- School and homestay rules
- Services provided (e.g. meals, laundry)

All homestay families, and prospective families, are supplied with a copy of the Homestay Policies and Procedures

INDUCTION

SSC values the work of homestay families and recognises its responsibility to offer support and assistance to ensure that homestay arrangements work well for all concerned. Once homestay families have been successfully screened, all new homestay families receive an induction by ASA and the College.

The Induction process includes, but is not limited to:

- SSC's commitment to providing environments which are safe, caring and supportive to children and young people.
- SSC's policies and procedures relating to the protection from harm of students in homestay arrangements.
- Procedures to follow when harm is disclosed or suspected.
- What is expected of them.

In addition, homestay induction includes providing information to homestay families about the aims

report the harm to the school's Principal. The types of harm reported may include sexual abuse or likely sexual abuse, emotional or psychological abuse or neglect or sexual exploitation.

IMPLEMENTING AND REVIEWING THE CHILD RISK MANAGEMENT STRATEGY

This Strategy in its entirety and its related policies and procedures are evidence of fulfilment of the requirements of section 3(1)(f)(i) of the Regulations relating to implementation.

The introduction to this Homestay Risk Management Strategy and the "Compliance and Monitoring" section below state SSC's commitment to reviewing the Strategy annually and are evidence of fulfilment of the requirements of section 3(1)(f)(i) of the Regulations relating to review.

BLUE CARDS

[Fact Sheet – Child accommodation and homestay providers](#)

All homestay service providers and homestay families (including parents of the school, but excluding those who are relatives of the child staying with them) must have prescribed notices (blue cards) except when:

the child accommodation service is organised by a school or recognised body, and is for seven days or less on no more than one occasion per year.

Paid employees of a homestay host must hold a blue card if they meet a 'regular contact' provision.¹

All adults who reside with the homestay provider must hold a blue card. Any student aged 18 or over who is residing with a homestay provider who is also hosting a student aged under 18 years must also hold a blue card.

It is the homestay families responsibility to [renew their blue cards](#) prior to their current card expiring.

ASA and SSC maintain a register through the Blue Card Services Organisation Portal of:

- All blue card numbers of people in the above categories and the blue card expiry.

RISK MANAGEMENT ([SSC Child Protection Risk Management Strategy](#))

SSC has established a risk register which identifies and evaluates risks involved with the accommodation, support and general welfare of a student accommodated in homestay arrangements, and an established process for developing strategies to minimise the impact of these risks. See Appendix 1 for the homestay risk register.

All homestay providers and homestay families are expected to report risk situations to SSC and ASA, as well as to identify risks related to activities under their supervision and to comply with all policies and strategies of the school that have been established for the safety of children.

Appendix 1 – Risk Register for Homestay Arrangements

| Activity/Description of risks | Existing control | Likelihood of risk occurring Almost certain, likely, possible, unlikely, rare | Consequences Minor, Moderate, Extreme | Level of Risk Extreme, High, Moderate, Low |
|---|--|--|--|--|
| Homestay Family – Invalid Blue Card <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Homestay fails to renew or apply in sufficient time - New people in the home | Homestays are notified 10 weeks prior to current blue card expiring to re-apply Reminded by ASA Regular communication regarding updating homestay family profile with any new members in the home. | Unlikely | Moderate | Extreme |
| Student misses flight from home country <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Flight cancellation Student is sick Late arriving at airport | Communication between agent, student, parent, homestay family and student airport pick-up | Possible | Minor | Moderate |

| Activity/Description of risks | Existing control | Likelihood of risk occurring Almost certain, likely, possible, unlikely, rare | Consequences Minor, Moderate, Extreme | Level of Risk Extreme, High, Moderate, Low |
|--|---|--|--|--|
| not paying attention to visual evidence of accommodation not considering what is the motivation of the homestay host | follow up inspections of homestay facility orientation of prospective homestay families | | | |
| Students behaviour within the home has changed student displaying concerning behaviour e.g. student looks depressed, not eating, not sleeping, self harming | Homestay host informed in reporting risk of harm ASA and SSC. Emergency numbers are provided. | Possible | Extreme | Extreme |
