



Alkira
Secondary College

Personalised learning for all. Respect for the individual learner.

15 Nurture Avenue, Cranbourne North 3977
PO Box 4314, Narre Warren South 3805
Victoria, Australia
Phone: 5991 3500 Fax: 5991 3599
Email: alkira.sc@edumail.vic.gov.au
Website: www.alkirasecondarycollege.com.au

FOR INTERNATIONAL STUDENT PROGRAM HOMESTAY PROVIDERS

The Child Safe Standards are compulsory minimum standards for all Victorian organizations that provide services for children, including Victorian government schools. The standards apply to all students enrolled in Victorian government schools but have particular relevance to international student welfare and homestay accommodation, being part of the school environment (physical place made available or authorised by the school governing authority for use by a child during or outside school hours).

Where Victorian government school international students under the age of 18 are not being cared for in Australia by a parent or suitable nominated relative, the Victorian Department of Education and Training must ensure appropriate arrangements are made to protect the personal safety and social well-being of those students.

International Students are from overseas coming to Victoria to study and where the school arranges homestay accommodation for the student.

The Victorian Department of Education and Training International Education Division has authority over this program and provide the following advice and support to schools relating to home stay accommodations, support and general welfare responsibilities:

- These students should be treated the same as all other students attending the school.
- Homestay families should be provided with a copy of the school's child safety policy/ statement of commitment. The Standards apply to homestays because they are part of the school environment (physical place made available or authorised by the school governing authority for use by a child during or outside school hours).
- Homestay families should be required to comply with the school's child safety code of conduct.
- The school should ensure appropriate checks are done on home stay families as required by Standard 4 of the International Student Program Quality Standards, which adhere to the Education Services for Overseas Student Legislation Framework.
- Homestay families should be provided with a copy of the four critical situations in the case of which a report should be made to the DHS Child Protection via the school.
- The school should include home stay families in risk management strategy.

For more information about the Child Safe Standards, see:

<http://www.education.vic.gov.au/about/programs/health/protect/Pages/childsafestandards.aspx>