



23 October 2017

Dear Parents,

I am writing to inform you of a matter of huge importance to all schools. The Board at Woodford has approved a policy designed to support all of our staff and families in matters related to the health, safety, and care of children in attendance at our school. Workshops have already taken place for all employees and child safe policies are being put into place. The Woodford Child Protection Policy is based on the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child of which the Solomon Islands is a signatory. These two key articles from the U.N Convention on the Rights of the Child are important and we wish to draw your attention to them.

Article 19 Protection from abuse and neglect:

- The State shall protect the child from all forms of maltreatment by parents or others responsible for the care of the child and establish appropriate social programs for the prevention of abuse and the treatment of victims.

Article 34 Sexual exploitation:

- The State shall protect children from sexual exploitation and abuse, including prostitution and involvement in pornography.

Woodford must maintain the highest of standards in regard to child protection. When we recruit teachers we require that all candidates have background police checks. In seeking a candidate to fill a position at Woodford we review these background checks as we read references and other information. By enrolling your child at Woodford, you agree to work in partnership with the school and abide by the policies adopted by the Board. We value our partnership with you in providing for the safety and care of your children. That is why Woodford has approved child protection policies that define the standards by which students should always be treated. As part of our shared responsibility to educate children to become globally ready learners in a safe environment, parents and all school employees need to ensure that our children are both safe and knowledgeable about their rights and responsibilities to themselves and to each other. The Woodford School will do all in its power to ensure that your children are safe from intimidation and abuse of any kind.

Woodford International Schools child protection policy can be accessed by clicking [here](#)

Sincerely

Anthony Baron

Head of School

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