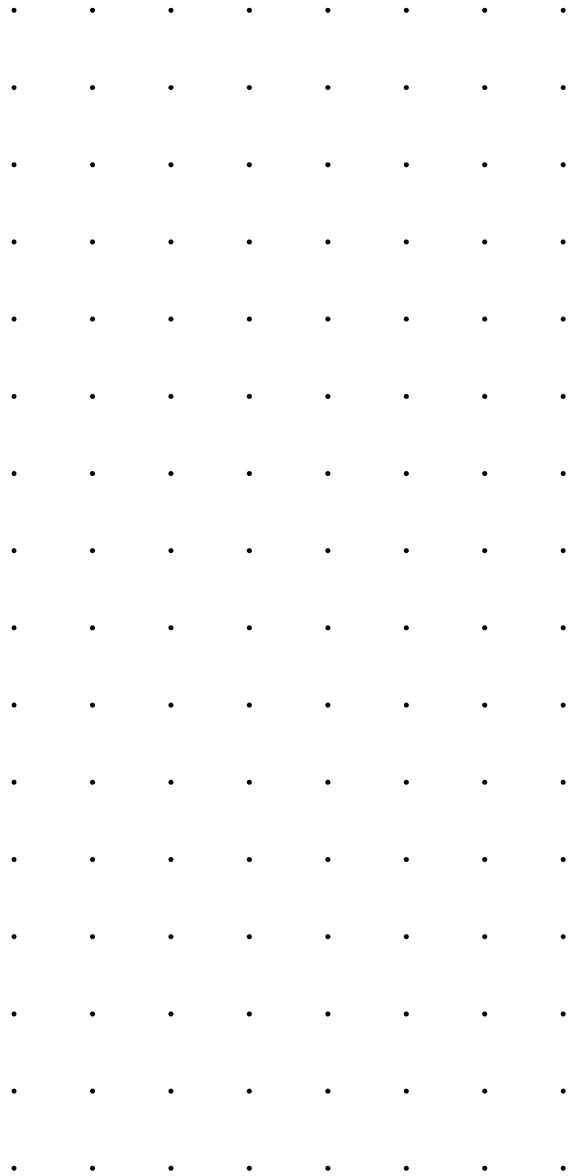




Child safety Factsheet

Made by the Safer Community Team

swinburne.edu.au/safercommunity



Processes and Information

Swinburne has zero tolerance for child abuse and all forms of harm to children and young people. This document summarises some of the policies, procedures, and services at Swinburne to ensure you are safe and supported throughout your studies.

Child Safety

Swinburne's [Child Safety](#) webpage has information on the University's commitment and responsibilities to protect children from harm and prevent child abuse. The webpage includes the following information and more:

Child Safety Statement of Commitment and Practice

Swinburne's [Child Safety Statement of Commitment and Practice](#) outlines the commitment to:

- Adhere to a Code of Conduct for staff, contractors and volunteers when engaging with children.
- Uphold an inclusive culture.
- Support and respond to the needs of all children, including vulnerable cohorts.
- Ensure children are safe when engaging in any Swinburne related activity, on-campus, off-campus and online.
- Recognise indicators of child abuse and follow the child safety reporting process.

Child safety reporting process

Swinburne has zero tolerance for child abuse and all forms of harm to children. Concerns or allegations are treated very seriously and acted upon. A system is in place to report and respond to child safety concerns through Swinburne Safer Community services. This process is outlined in the following documents on the [Child Safety](#) webpage:

- [Child Safety Reporting Process Flowchart \[PDF 101KB\]](#)
- [Responding to Child Safety Concerns Framework \[PDF 654 KB\]](#)

Behavioural expectations

The Student Charter

All students are expected to adhere to the behavioural expectations outlined in the [Swinburne Student Charter](#). Most notably, students are expected to: *"treat other students and staff with honesty, respect and courtesy in a safe manner, and refrain from harassing them or discriminating against them."*

Breaches to the Student Charter can be grounds for misconduct and sanction, as per the [Student General Misconduct Regulations 2012](#).

Unacceptable behaviours policy

The [People, Culture, and Integrity Policy \(Part 5\)](#) includes information on unacceptable behaviour and compliance. Unacceptable behaviour includes bullying, violence, sexual harassment and assault, discrimination, harassment and vilification, harm to children and child abuse, and improper conduct.

Prevention and response

Safer Community

Swinburne's [Safer Community](#) team provides support, advice and investigates incidents of inappropriate, concerning and/or threatening behaviours within the university relating to student conduct, including child safety concerns.

Safer Community aims to create a safe and respectful environment for all staff and students by:

- Providing an avenue to report concerning behaviour.
- Headlining university-wide primary prevention initiatives.
- Ensuring the university's compliance with the Child Safe Standards.

Safer Community has a suite of age-appropriate and easy to read recourses available to students via the [Safer Community webpage](#). Children part of the Swinburne Community can also access further information and resources in various formats (e.g., webinar recordings, podcast episodes, bite size videos, written factsheets) via Safer Community's [Canvas shell](#).

Safer Community conducts ongoing induction sessions relating to child safety and behavioural risk concerns to students and staff, to ensure awareness of the university's expectations and clarity around policies, processes, and referral pathways.

Security

To ensure immediate safety, Swinburne has 24/7 patrolling [Security](#) professionals on and around campus, CCTV, and electronic key passes ensuring only authorised students and staff can access specific buildings.

Complaints and feedback

Swinburne's [formal complaints](#) process provides an avenue for students, families and members of the public to report child safety related concerns. The [Complaints Management Guidelines](#) details the university's formal complaints process.

Informal feedback regarding child safety at Swinburne can be provided by submitting a feedback form located on the [Child Safety](#) webpage.

Health and wellbeing

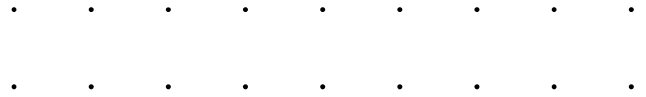
Peer relations

University life is about more than academic study. At Swinburne, there is plenty of opportunity to experience and discover. Swinburne has a range of [clubs and student organisations](#) that support friendships and peer group programs, these include Queer Collective and First Nations Collective.

Health service

Swinburne cares about your [health and wellbeing](#). There is comprehensive professional health, medical and counselling and psychological services to support the mental, physical, and emotional health and safety of the Swinburne community.

Processes and Information



Diversity and inclusion

AccessAbility service

Swinburne is an inclusive and welcoming environment for people living with a disability, medical or mental health condition. Our [AccessAbility services](#) helps students get the most out of your studies by providing support around reasonable learning adjustments. Please note that this service is not applicable to students enrolled in a [VETDSS qualification](#).

International Student Advisory and Support service

If you are an international student, Swinburne can help you navigate all aspects of living in Australia and support you with issues that are unique to you. The [International Student Advisors](#) (ISAs) run welcome and drop-in sessions, and can support you individually.

Indigenous cultural support and safety

The [Moondani Toombadool Centre](#) is responsible for all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander matters at Swinburne and encompasses several areas, including: an [Indigenous Student Services](#) team that provides a range of services, including academic support, cultural support, academic tutoring, and scholarships.

Swinburne's 2020-23 [Reconciliation Action Plan](#) (RAP) focuses on four key priorities: Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander self-determination, cultural safety, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander knowledge and embedding reconciliation across all parts of the organisation.

LGBTIQ+ support and inclusion

Swinburne provides [LGBTIQ+ community support](#) and works to create an inclusive environment. Our campuses have gender neutral bathrooms available and if you're looking for a safe space at Hawthorn campus, the Queer Space and Women's Room are areas that offer facilities and friendly faces.

Swinburne holds several events throughout the year aimed at embracing our LGBTIQ+ community, including the annual Pride March and Wear It Purple Day. For details on all our upcoming events, check out the [events](#) and [student union](#) page.

Faith support and inclusion

Swinburne recognises the importance of [spiritual care](#). The Multi Faith Centre on Hawthorn campus provides faith rooms suitable for prayer, meditation, and reflection. It can be used for group or individual prayer, or simply serve as a place for quiet thought. This facility is here for people of all faiths or with no faith. We also have Interfaith, Christian, Hindu, Muslim, and Jewish chaplains at the centre providing spiritual care for all, irrespective of belief.

Further support

Swinburne assists students across a wide range of community needs and individual requirements around life and study. This is not an exhaustive list of supports, so please refer to the [Student Support Services webpage](#) for more details.

Student Success Coaches (Vocational Education and Training students)

The [Student Success Coach program](#) is a free service available to Swinburne vocational education students, including VCAL and VCE students, and apprentices. Student Success Coaches support vocational education students to better succeed in their studies. Their goal is to design strategies to help you overcome challenges and to access the right support, including Swinburne student services.

Academic progress and experience support

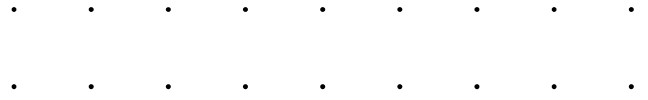
If you're having an issue with your academic progress, or with your experience at Swinburne, you can get advice and assistance from the [Independent advocacy service](#) at Swinburne Student Life, which is a free, confidential and independent service.

Legal advice and support

If you need confidential advice and assistance with a legal issue, Swinburne Student Life can assist you. They have an arrangement with several legal firms to provide free [independent legal advice](#) to students when needed.



Supports



On campus

Safer Community

Safer Community offers advice, support, intervention, and risk management for students who experience or witness inappropriate, concerning, or threatening behaviours on or off campus. You can get in touch with the team via email or the online reporting form.

You can also access relevant contact details via the [Swinburne app](#) under the 'staying safe' section.

safercommunity@swin.edu.au

swin.edu.au/incident-reporting-form

swin.edu.au/safercommunity

Swinburne Security

Contact campus security services for emergencies on campus, after hours assistance or for a security escort. You can access relevant contact details via the [Swinburne app](#) under the 'staying safe' section.

03 9214 3333 (available 24/7)

After-Hours Support Line

If you are feeling anxious or distressed, the Swinburne after-hours support line is available to help 24 hours a day on weekends and public holidays, and outside business hours on weekdays (before 9am and after 5pm).

Call 1300 854 144 or text 0488 884 145

Swinburne Health Service (Counselling and Psychological Services)

If you are struggling with a personal, emotional, or mental health difficulty, whether related to your studies or your life away from university, counselling may help. Register and make an appointment with the counselling service.

03 9214 8483

swin.edu.au/counselling

International Student Advisory & Support

Provides personal advice, support, and referral for international students in any adjustments to their life circumstances in Australia.

03 9214 6741 (also available outside of business hours for critical incident support)

isa@swin.edu.au

AccessAbility service

Provides information and develops Education Access Plans to students living with a disability, medical or mental health condition, or students who have primary carer responsibilities.

03 9214 5234 (available 9am-5pm)

accessability@swinburne.edu.au

Independent Advocacy Service

Swinburne Student Life provides policy advice, support and guidance on academic issues, and advocates for best outcomes in complaints, grievances, appeals and misconduct hearings.

03 9214 5445

advocacy@swin.edu.au

swin.edu.au/advocacy

Off campus

In an emergency, please contact 000.

Lifeline

Free crisis support and suicide prevention service.

13 11 14 (available 24/7)

lifeline.org.au

Kids Helpline

Free, private, and confidential phone and online counselling service for young people aged 5 to 25.

1800 551 800 (available 24/7)

kidshelpline.com.au

Headspace

Telephone helpline and online service for teenagers and young people aged 12–25 who are worried about their mental health. Support is also available to concerned parents or carers.

1800 650 890 (9am-1am)

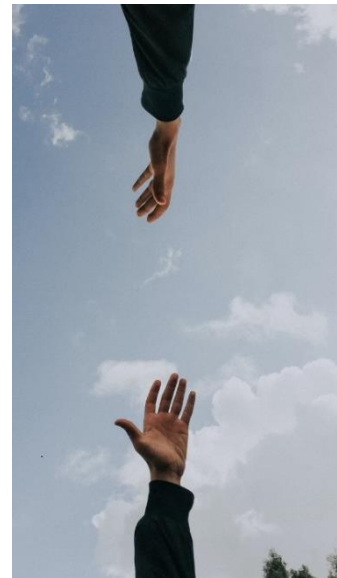
headspace.org.au

Parentline

Telephone counselling service for Victorian parents and carers of children up to 18 years of age. The service is available from 8 am to midnight, seven days a week.

13 22 89 (8am – midnight, 7 days a week)

services.dffh.vic.gov.au/parentline



Further information

Email safercommunity@swin.edu.au

Web swin.edu.au/safercommunity

Canvas swinburne.instructure.com/enroll/LBX38D

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