Relevant NAGs: 1 (iii) 5 (l) 5 (i) BOT Chairperson signature: Approved Date: 26 June 2017

# **Child Protection and Abuse Prevention**

## Rationale

Otari School has a responsibility under legislation and in society to provide an environment, which ensures that all children under its care are treated with dignity and respect when there are cases of suspected child abuse.

## Purpose

- 1) To develop effective procedures to deal with cases of suspected child abuse (current or historical), including appropriate referral procedures.
- 2) To provide guidelines on educating staff on child abuse identification and management.
- 3) To ensure children are provided with preventative education to enhance safety and awareness.
- 4) Otari School will provide preventative education through the Health and Physical Well-Being section of the Health curriculum.

#### Guidelines

The attached Protocol and Guidelines between the Ministry of Education, the NZ School Trustees Association and Child Youth and Family will be used to assist Otari School in dealing with child abuse and neglect and the management of child abuse allegations against Board employees. This document includes a reporting process for suspected or disclosed child abuse that will be followed at Otari School.

#### Review

Policy and procedures will be reviewed by management following any incidences of child abuse being reported.