

STATEMENT OF COMMITMENT TO CHILD SAFETY

Queen Street Early Learning Centre is dedicated to establishing a secure environment for children and young individuals. We acknowledge our responsibilities and legal duty of care in accordance with the Child Safe Standards, as we continuously enhance our Centre's capability to prevent and address allegations of child abuse.

Our steadfast commitment is evident through the implementation and adherence to our Child Safe Environment Policy, which seamlessly incorporates the National Child Safe Standards (2022). This policy unequivocally reinforces our zero-tolerance stance on child abuse, emphasising the crucial role of promoting child safety not only within our Service but also throughout the broader community.

The safeguarding of children from abuse and neglect stands as our utmost priority, as we uphold their holistic well-being. Our Child Protection Policy steers us in fulfilling our commitment to report any instances of physical, sexual, emotional, or psychological abuse and neglect. We engage in lawful and appropriate collaborations with other organisations to ensure the protection of children.

We place a paramount importance on distinguishing between appropriate and inappropriate behaviors involving adults and children. To ensure the safety of children, we maintain well-defined boundaries between children, educators, staff, volunteers, and the community.

Our dedication extends to nurturing cultural safety for every child and young individual, encompassing those from First Nations, diverse cultural backgrounds, and those with disabilities. Queen Street ELC provides a secure and inclusive setting, embracing and celebrating the individuality of each child. Their inherent right to protection is resolute, and we are steadfast in our efforts to prevent any form of discriminatory practices.

Our approach is firmly grounded in continuous professional development, which empowers our staff to skillfully identify and address instances of abuse and neglect. Through their unwavering commitment to upholding child safety and responsiveness to their roles, our educators and staff assume a crucial position in this collaborative effort.

Aligned with the principles of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child, we educate children about their inherent right to safety. Equipped with knowledge about appropriate steps to take when feeling unsafe, children are actively encouraged to voice their thoughts on matters directly affecting them.

In our capacity as educators, we actively listen to and empower children to express any concerns they or their peers may have. This approach is deeply ingrained in our policies and procedures, underscoring our unwavering commitment to child safety. We greatly value the insights of families and caregivers, upholding transparent communication, and conducting annual reviews of policies and procedures to ensure our standards remain consistently high.