



## STATEMENT OF COMMITMENT TO CHILD SAFETY

Orchard Early Learning Centre is committed to providing a safe environment for children and young people. We understand our responsibilities and statutory duty of care to comply with the Child Safe Standards and to build our capacity as an organisation to prevent and respond to allegations of child abuse.

Our Service is committed to implementing and abiding by our Child Safe Environment Policy incorporating the National Child Safe Standards (2022), which emphasises our zero tolerance for child abuse and raising awareness about the importance of child safety in our Services and the community.

We are dedicated to protecting children from abuse and neglect and promote a child safe environment and maintaining children's wellbeing. We acknowledge the Child Protection Policy and are aware of our mandatory reporting responsibilities to protect children from physical, sexual, emotional and psychological abuse and neglect.

Any information relating to children is shared with other organisations appropriately and lawfully to protect children.

We work to ensure there is clear awareness between appropriate and inappropriate behaviour concerning adults and children. We set clear boundaries between children and employees, volunteers and the community to maintain children's safety.

We are dedicated to promoting cultural safety for all children and young people, including First Nations children, children from culturally and/or linguistically diverse backgrounds, and to provide a safe and inclusive environment for children with a disability. We believe all children have the right to be protected.

We value diversity and do not tolerate any discriminatory practices.

We are committed to ongoing professional development for employees to maintain their knowledge and ability to respond to situations of abuse and neglect, ensuring employees are responsive to their responsibilities in keeping children safe.

We work in collaboration with the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child and advocate that all children have right to be safe. We educate children by providing strategies on what to do if they feel unsafe, teaching acceptable and unacceptable behaviour, and what is appropriate and inappropriate contact at an age-appropriate level.



Children will be encouraged to express their views and thoughts on matters that directly affect them and our educational team will take child's views and feeling seriously.

We are committed to up hold the National Principles for Child Safe Organisations and understand the practices that promote the safety and wellbeing of children in Australia.

We value the input of, and communicate regularly with families and carers and review our policies and procedures relating to children's safety and child protection annually.

Educators and other staff understand their mandatory requirements to report concerns about a child they believe is at risk of significant harm (ROSH) under child protection legislation- Children and Young Persons (Care and Protection) Act 1998

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**1** Child safety and wellbeing is embedded in organisational **leadership, governance and culture.**
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**2** Children and young people are informed about their **rights, participate** in decisions affecting them and are taken seriously.
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**3** Families and communities are **informed and involved** in promoting child safety and wellbeing.
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**4** **Equity** is upheld and **diverse needs** respected in policy and practice.
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**5** People working with children and young people are suitable and **supported** to reflect child safety and wellbeing values in practice.
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**6** Processes to respond to **complaints and concerns** are child focused.
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**7** **Staff and volunteers** are equipped with the knowledge, skills and awareness to keep children and young people safe through **ongoing education and training.**
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**8** **Physical and online environments** promote safety and wellbeing while minimising the opportunity for children and young people to be harmed.
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**9** Implementation of the national child safe principles is **regularly reviewed and improved.**
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**10** **Policies and procedures** document how the organisation is safe for children and young people.

Name of Service			
Name of Employee		Position	
Employee Signature		Date	