



Singleton Heights Pre-School Inc.

Child Safe Statement

The Pre-School is a child safe organisation, implementing the 10 “Child Safe Standards”, upholding our child safety commitment through our policies, procedures, practices, interactions and conversations. We have a zero-tolerance culture of child maltreatment, abuse and neglect in our service. We maintain an organisational culture which reflects the 10 “Child Safe Standards”, ensuring the safety of all children and the reporting of allegations of abuse or harm.

In respect of the “Paramourncy Principle”, the policies, practices, procedures and decisions made by the Pre-School ensure that the rights, wellbeing and best interests of the children are paramount, supporting them to feel safe, heard and respected. We ensure the safety, health and wellbeing of all children and are committed to improving their educational and developmental outcomes. We support and emphasise the rights and best interests of every child as paramount, creating, promoting and modelling a respectful, child safe culture, where children are empowered to share concerns, their views are always listened to, and their participation is included in decision-making that affects their lives. This paramourncy relates to all service decisions in respect to governance decisions, policies, procedures and practices.

The service child safety commitment, and information, is shared with all staff, Management Committee, volunteers and professional tertiary students through the induction process. They are knowledgeable of, and abide by, the Child Safe principles and practices of the Pre-School as outlined in service policies, procedures, staff “Position Descriptions” and an individual staff/Management Committee/volunteer/student “Code of Conduct”. These commitments include:

- maintaining a child safe culture.
- protecting children from maltreatment, abuse and neglect, with staff knowing the signs of child maltreatment, abuse, neglect and grooming.
- creating a culture and safe space that prioritises staff reporting concerns immediately and fulfilling their reporting obligations, including regulatory requirements for documenting, reporting and investigating concerns and allegations.
- ensuring staff are confident and supported to appropriately respond to suspicions of harm, complaints, allegations, disclosures and breaches to our child Safe policies and “Code of Conduct”.
- identifying, monitoring and mitigating child safety risks.
- adhering to all child safe supervision requirements.
- engaging in child safe practices when recruiting and inducting new staff.
- educating all involved in the service about being a child safe organisation, supporting the prevention, detection and effective response to child abuse.
- Ensuring that when family and community members, including visiting therapists, interact with our organisation, that they are aware of their child safe responsibilities are required to align with ours.

The Pre-School is aware of, responds to and implements practices that demonstrate the needs of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander culture and children, ensuring they feel valued and welcomed. This commitment also extends to children from other diverse cultures, the safety and inclusion of all children with disabilities and identified needs and those with additional vulnerabilities.

We work closely with families to support children’s health, safety and wellbeing, ensuring families are provided with service information through the enrolment process, knowing how, when and to whom, complaints can be made. If an incident occurs, the Pre-School will provide families with relevant and appropriate information in a timely manner. Families and community members are encouraged to provide feedback on how the organisation keeps children safe, and this information is acted upon when necessary.

Continuous improvement is promoted in the provision of quality education and care services, and we are committed to engagement with professional development and supporting all staff to understand and implement child safe practices. We implement rigorous child safe recruitment, induction and practices when engaging new team members.

All staff understand and implement the “National Model Code” and guidelines for use in centre-based early childhood education (ECEC) services, in relation to taking images and video of children and the prohibited use of personal devices. We regularly assess environments, programs and practices as well as upholding reporting, complaints handling, comprehensive record keeping systems and compliance with legal obligations.