



# CHILD SAFETY POLICY

CREATE A SPLASH

CHILD SAFETY POLICY

DATE: JULY 2022

ENDORSED BY TEAM

REVIEW AS REQUIRED

POLICY TITLE: CHILD SAFETY POLICY

PAGES: [4]

VERSION NUMBER: [1]

APPROVAL DATE: 03/07/2022

## **1. Introduction**

The National Principles of for Child Safe Organisations emphasise the importance of each organisation having policies and procedures that document how an organisation is safe for children and young people. Children and young people have a right to be safe and always protected, including when accessing services in the community. Both the *Children and Young People (Safety) Act 2017* and the *Child Safety (Prohibited Persons) Act 2016* require a broad range of government and non-government organisations to provide child safe environments.

The Australian Human Rights Commission (2018, p. 4) defines a child safe organisation as one that:

- Creates an environment where children's safety and wellbeing is at the centre of thoughts, values and actions
- Places emphasis on genuine engagement with and valuing of children and young people
- Creates conditions that reduce the likelihood of harm to children and young people
- Creates conditions that increase the likelihood of identifying any harm
- Responds to any concerns, disclosures, allegations or suspicions of harm.

## **2. Scope**

This policy applies to all people who conduct work for Create A Splash in a paid or an unpaid capacity. This includes all owners, employees, trainees and volunteers and applies to all activities conducted within Create A Splash which involve, result or relate to contact with children and young people.

POLICY TITLE: CHILD SAFETY POLICY

PAGES: [4]

VERSION NUMBER: [1]

APPROVAL DATE: 03/07/2022

### **3. Policy Statement**

Create A Splash is committed to ensuring the safety and general well-being of all children and young people accessing its services. Create A Splash has a strong child focus and believe the rights of the child should always be respected and considered when implementing its programs and activities and that children have a safe environment free of harm.

Create A Splash are committed in ensuring;

- Risks to children are properly identified, assessed, treated and regularly reviewed.
- All staff are appropriately screened and have a valid Working with Children Check.
- That staff are trained and confident in mandated notifying and the proper procedures they must undertake in the event of suspected or alleged child negligence and/or abuse.
- That staff are constantly driven in creating a safe environment.

### **4. Minimising Risk**

Create A Splash are responsible for creating a child safe environment. This is including but is not limited to, an environment free of physical, psychological, sexual, emotional abuse and neglect. Staff, paid or unpaid, have a responsibility at accessing and minimizing risk, monitoring and eliminating any possible threats and ensuring all safeguarding children qualifications are in date. Create A Splash and its staff will also ensure all training and qualifications are relevant and in date and that a child safe focus is implemented into all meetings, in house trainings and documentation.

4.1 As mandated notifiers it is our legal obligation to report all concerns of misconduct towards children. Create A Splash have a zero tolerance on any form of child abuse and will act accordingly to maintain the safety of children and young people. Create A Splash are committed to the safety, participation, and empowerment of all children. Create A Splash treats all allegations and child safety concerns seriously.

POLICY TITLE: CHILD SAFETY POLICY

PAGES: [4]

VERSION NUMBER: [1]

APPROVAL DATE: 03/07/2022

4.2 We are committed to the cultural safety of Aboriginal children, the cultural safety of children from culturally linguistic diverse backgrounds, and to providing them with a safe environment.

## **5. Privacy**

We place considerable importance on safeguarding the privacy and confidentiality of information provided to us about children and their families, through honouring and respecting its personal nature. We have developed a privacy policy and procedures regarding the collection, use and storage of information.

## **6. Staff Responsibilities**

Create A Splash ensures all aspects of our service, and our venues are always safe for all children. Our service has a moral and legal responsibility to ensure that the rights and best interests of the child are paramount.

Create A Splash expects all Staff Members to be caring, compassionate adults who take an interest in the well-being of children, and who set appropriate boundaries for worker-Child relationships.

Staff members are never to be alone with a child out of another staff or adults eyesight. Staff are never to expose a child to nudity or pornographic materials, obscene language or other graphic content.

Staff Members must be aware that their interactions with Children are based on a trusting relationship arising from the nature of their role in the organisation, and that those relationships are open to scrutiny. Staff must also be aware that their relationship with children has a perceived and actual power imbalance and must never abuse this power.

At all times, Staff Members must conduct themselves in a professional manner towards children, consistent with their appointed role.

POLICY TITLE: CHILD SAFETY POLICY

PAGES: [4]

VERSION NUMBER: [1]

APPROVAL DATE: 03/07/2022

## **7. Breach of the Policy**

Any breach or non-compliance of this policy may result in disciplinary action to be taken.

### **Relevant Documents**

Children and Young People (Safety) Act 2017

*Child Safety (Prohibited Persons) Act 2016*

Child Safe Organisations National Principles

South Australia Child Protection Framework