

Child safe organisation commitment

All children and young people who attend Queensland Health services have the right to feel safe, valued, listened to, and informed.

Queensland Health has zero tolerance for child abuse, neglect, and harm, and is committed to ensuring the safety and wellbeing of all children and young people. All employees, volunteers, and service providers in the Queensland Health system have a responsibility to respect and promote the rights of children and young people.

We are committed to:

- proactively creating and maintaining an organisational culture that prioritises the health, safety and wellbeing and participation of all children and young people
- taking a child-centred approach to addressing the health, safety and wellbeing of children, young people, and their families and/or carers
- working in partnership with other government departments, non-government agencies and communities to ensure a coordinated and collaborative response to the diverse and individual needs of children, young people, and their families and/or carers
- acknowledging and effectively responding to the unique needs of children and young people to ensure they feel safe, respected, and supported, particularly those from priority groups including:
 - those who identify as being of Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander origin
 - from culturally and/or linguistically diverse backgrounds
 - with disability
 - identify as LGBTQI+, and
 - those with experiences in the child protection system
- ensuring the cultural safety of children and young people who identify as Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander and those from culturally and/or linguistically diverse backgrounds, and
- meaningfully engaging with children, their families and/or carers to inform our activities.

Queensland Health is committed to ensuring our agencies are child safe organisations and that our services and operations align with the *National Principles for Child Safe Organisations*:

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



Yvette D'Ath MP
Minister for Health and Ambulance Services
Leader of the House

06/10/2021



Dr John Wakefield PSM
Director-General

28/09/2021

