

## STATEMENT ON OUR COMMITMENT TO CHILD SAFETY AND WELLBEING

1. PREVENT, PROTECT, and EMPOWER are the three foundational pillars for Knowledge Family Day Care, ensuring a culture that constantly strives to enhance and reinforce child safety, providing brighter futures for children and young people.
2. As a child-safe organization, Knowledge Family Day Care is dedicated to fostering environments where children and young people are respected, their voices are acknowledged, their rights are upheld, and their safety is paramount.
3. Knowledge Family Day Care Service is devoted to the safety and welfare of all children and young people. We recognize our responsibilities and statutory duty of care to adhere to both the Victorian Child Safe Standards and the Reportable Conduct Scheme, enhancing our capacity to prevent and respond to allegations of child abuse.
4. Knowledge Family Day Care Service is committed to implementing and upholding our Child Safety and Wellbeing Policy based on the Child Safe Standards in Victoria (2022), which emphasizes our ZERO tolerance for child abuse and heightens awareness about the importance of child safety within our service and the community.
5. We are resolute in protecting children from abuse and neglect, promoting a child-safe environment, and maintaining children's welfare. We adhere to our comprehensive Child Protection Policy, honoring our mandatory reporting obligations to safeguard children from physical, sexual, emotional, and psychological abuse and neglect.
6. We strive to ensure there is clear understanding between appropriate and inappropriate behavior concerning adults and children. We maintain distinct boundaries between children and employees, volunteers, and the community to ensure children's safety.
7. We are committed to promoting cultural safety for Aboriginal children, cultural safety for children from culturally and/or linguistically diverse backgrounds, and providing a secure environment for children with disabilities.
8. We value diversity and DO NOT TOLERATE any discriminatory practices.
9. We are committed to continuous professional development for educators and staff to ensure their ability to recognize and respond to situations of abuse and neglect, guaranteeing educators and staff are responsive to their responsibilities in keeping children safe.
10. We collaborate with the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child and are confident in educating children about their right to be safe. We believe in teaching children what to do if they feel unsafe and encouraging them to express their views and thoughts on matters that directly affect them.
11. As Knowledge Family Day Care educators, we listen to and empower children to act on any concerns they or others may raise, reflecting this in our policies and procedures to ensure child safety. The participation and empowerment of children and young people are crucial.
12. Engaging children and listening to their views is essential for ensuring they are involved in making decisions that impact their futures. Upholding their rights and valuing the contributions they make promotes their inclusion and safety.
13. We value the input of and regularly communicate with families and guardians.

At Knowledge Family Day Care, we take our policy and legal responsibilities seriously, including:

**Failure to disclose:** Reporting child sexual abuse is a community-wide responsibility. All adults in Victoria who have a reasonable belief that an adult has committed a sexual offence against a child under 16 have an obligation to report that information to the police.

**Failure to protect:** People of authority in our service will commit an offence if they know of a substantial risk of child sexual abuse and have the power or responsibility to reduce or remove the risk, but negligently fail to do so.

All personnel who are mandatory reporters must comply with their duties.