

Child Safe Environments Policy

Policy statement

Carers and Disability Link (CADL) are committed to providing a safe environment to all children and young people. This policy complies with the Children and Young People (Safety) Act 2017, the Child Safety (Prohibited Persons) Act 2016 and aligns with the National Principles for Child Safe Organisations.

CADL will:

- Have zero tolerance to child abuse, harm and neglect;
- Adhere to the National Principles for Child Safe Organisations;
- Display a committed leadership and governance culture, adhering to the Code of Conduct as everyone's responsibility to ensure CADL is a child safe environment;
- Create Child Safe Environments policy and procedures to keep children safe from harm and provide a safe environment;
- Encourage children and young people and their carers actively participate in CADL decisions and safety setting through regular communication and consultation;
- Include Child Safe Environments as a component in CADL's Risk Management Framework to provide safe physical and online environments for children and young people;
- A commitment to the safety of children with a disability, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children and to the cultural safety of children from culturally and linguistically diverse (CALD) backgrounds;
- Have a robust recruitment and worker screening policy and procedure for workers and Independent Contractors (IC)s working with children and young people including Working With Children Checks under the Child Safety (Prohibited Persons) Act 2016;
- Take every concern and allegation seriously, in line with the principles of procedural fairness including believing children when they raise a concern or make an allegation;
- Have an effective complaints management policy and procedure for the rights of children and young people to feel safe and heard;
- Maintain workers and (IC)s knowledge of the National Principles for Child Safe Organisations through Mandatory Training, adequate information, and instructions from CADL and ensure all workers and ICs can identify and report through the Child Abuse Reporting Line (CARL) for Mandatory Reporting;
- Accept and respond to feedback from children and young people and their Carers on the effectiveness of CADL's management of Child Safe Environments;
- Review Child Safe Environments annually or as updates occur to ensure CADL are operating at best practice and for Continuous Quality Improvement.

This policy relates to

- Aged Care Quality Standards
- National Standards for Disability Services



- Children and Young People Safety Act
- NDIS Practice Standards
- National Standards for Mental Health Services
- SA Psychological Rehabilitation Support Service Standards
- Service Excellent Standards
- Current Legislation
- Supporting Documents.