

# Our Child Safety Commitment

CentreStage is committed to the safety and wellbeing of all children and young people. This will be an essential focus of our decision-making.

CentreStage has zero tolerance for any form of child abuse.

CentreStage is committed to providing a child safe environment where children and young people are safe and feel safe, and their voices are heard about decisions that affect their lives. Particular attention will be paid to the cultural safety of at risk and vulnerable young people including children from culturally and/or linguistically diverse backgrounds, Aboriginal children and children with disability.

Every person involved with CentreStage has a responsibility to understand the important and specific role he/she plays individually and collectively to ensure that the wellbeing and safety of all children and young people is at the forefront of all they do and every decision they make.

In its planning, decision-making and operations CentreStage Pty Ltd will:

1. Take a preventative, proactive and participatory approach to child safety
2. Value and empower children to participate in decisions which affect their lives
3. Foster a culture of openness that supports all persons to safely disclose risks of harm to children
4. Respect diversity in cultures and child rearing practices while keeping child safety as the highest priority
5. Provide guidance on appropriate conduct and behaviour towards children
6. Engage only the most suitable people to work with children and have high quality staff, volunteers and provide appropriate professional learning for the adults working with children in our program.
7. Ensure children know who to talk with if they are worried or are feeling unsafe, and that they are comfortable and encouraged to raise such issues
8. Report suspected abuse, neglect or mistreatment promptly to the appropriate authorities
9. Share information appropriately and lawfully with other organisations where the safety and wellbeing of children is at risk
10. Value the input of and communicate regularly with families and carers.

For more information on child safety please visit: <https://ccyp.vic.gov.au/child-safety/being-a-child-safe-organisation/the-child-safe-standards/>

