



# Child safe child friendly Factsheet

## Child safe, child friendly – how we are keeping children safe at UnitingCare

**UnitingCare places the safety of any child above the interests of any other individual or the organisation.**

**We prioritise child safe practice throughout our organisation and acknowledge the work of the Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse which has helped us improve the safety of children in contact with UnitingCare.**

**We believe that not knowing is not an excuse, and uphold a culture where keeping children safe is a responsibility of all staff regardless of role or work place.**

**We commit to continuing our journey of learning and development to deliver best practice services to children into the future.**

UnitingCare and its services – Family and Disability Services, UnitingCare Hospitals, Aged Care and Community Services and ARRCs (Australian Regional and Remote Community Services) – work within a child safe, child friendly framework which aims to keep children safe while they are in contact with our services.

The Child Safe Standards identified by the Royal Commission have been implemented throughout our organisation.

### **We are committed to:**

- providing welcoming, safe and nurturing services for all children
- implementing measures to prevent abuse and neglect from occurring within our services
- appropriately and immediately addressing child abuse or neglect if it does occur.

We prioritise the safety of all children in contact with our organisation.

### **To keep children safe we:**

- promote a culture of responsibility across the whole organisation for keeping children safe
- ensure our staff know the standards they are held to as they interact with children and the consequences of not upholding these standards
- ensure rigorous screening, assessing, and checking are undertaken in our employment processes for staff working with children
- identify and manage risk of harm across our services and sites
- have clear reporting requirements which include reporting concerns to the police or the Dept to Children, Youth Justice and Multicultural Affairs (department of Children).

### **For more information**

If you are concerned about anything you see, hear or feel in relation to the safety of a child, please talk to us. Talk to a staff member, manager or the UnitingCare Child Safe Contact Officer:

 **1800 297 745**

 **ucareqld@stoline.com.au**

For more information see our Child Safe, Child Friendly Risk Management Framework on our website:

 **[unitingcareqld.com.au/advocacy/child-safety](https://unitingcareqld.com.au/advocacy/child-safety)**