



## Child Safe Policy

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### Purpose of this Policy

All children and young people who engage with the Australian Agricultural Centre have the right to feel safe, supported, and protected from harm.

This policy:

- Forms part of the Australian Agricultural Centre's ongoing commitment to child safety and wellbeing.
- Outlines the safeguards we have in place to minimise risks and prevent abuse or harm.
- Sets out the responsibilities and expectations of all staff, trainers, volunteers, contractors, and visitors in maintaining a child-safe environment.

### Our Commitment to Child Safety

The Australian Agricultural Centre is committed to providing a safe, inclusive, and respectful environment for all children and young people.

We have **zero tolerance for child abuse** and are dedicated to ensuring that every child in our care feels valued, heard, and protected.

Our full *Statement of Commitment to Child Safety* is provided in the appendix of this policy and is also available on our website.

### Who This Policy Applies To

This policy applies to **everyone involved with the Australian Agricultural Centre**, including:

- Employees, trainers, and educators
- Volunteers and contractors
- Students and participants
- Parents, carers, and visiting adults
- Partner organisations and guests attending programs or events

Everyone has a shared responsibility to uphold child safety when participating in activities involving children or young people.

### Roles and Responsibilities

All individuals working or volunteering at the Centre are required to:

- Uphold the Australian Agricultural Centre's commitment to child safety and wellbeing.
- Read, sign, and follow the **Child Safe Code of Conduct**.
- Complete all required and ongoing **child safety training**.
- Participate in regular reviews of our child safe policies and procedures.
- Report any breaches, incidents, or concerns relating to child safety, harm, or abuse.

Our **Child Safe Champion** is **Jo Marshall, CEO**.

Please contact them with any questions or concerns related to child safety and well-being.



## Definitions

**Child abuse** – As defined by the World Health Organisation, child abuse (or maltreatment) includes all forms of physical or emotional ill-treatment, sexual abuse, neglect, or exploitation that results in actual or potential harm to a child's health, development, or dignity.

**Grooming** – Grooming occurs when an adult builds trust with a child, their family, or community members with the intent to sexually abuse the child. It can take place in person or online.

## Content Overview

This policy provides guidance on key areas of child safety, including:

- Supervision of children (including outside of class times)
- Managing drop-off and pick-up procedures
- Online communication and digital safety
- Physical contact with children
- Travel and overnight accommodation
- Change room and personal privacy etiquette
- Out-of-hours contact
- Illness and injury management

## Related Policies and Procedures

This policy should be read alongside the following Australian Agricultural Centre documents:

- **Child Safe Code of Conduct**
- **Child Safe Reporting Policy**
- **Risk Management and Supervision Policy**
- **Incident Response Procedure**

Copies of these policies are included as appendices to this document and are available on our website or upon request.

## Legal and Regulatory Requirements

The Australian Agricultural Centre complies with all relevant child protection legislation and standards, including:

- The **10 Child Safe Standards**
- The **Children's Guardian Act 2019 (NSW)**
- The **Child Protection (Working with Children) Act 2012 (NSW)**
- The **Child Protection (Working with Children) Regulation 2013 (NSW)**

For a full list of relevant legislation, see the appendix at the end of this document.

## Access to This Policy

The Australian Agricultural Centre's **Child Safe Policy** is available on our website and can be provided in printed form upon request.

Schools, parents, and participants receive a copy with enrolment or registration materials.



**Next Review Date**

**Next scheduled review:** *12 Jan 2027*

(Or earlier if there are significant changes to legislation, policy requirements, or following any critical incident or review.)