

YMCA Hobart Board Commitment to Safeguarding Children and Young People

It is the policy of YMCA Hobart to empower and support children and young people to reach their full potential. To do this we hold the following beliefs:

- All children and young people have the right to develop and reach their potential in environments that are caring, nurturing and safe.
- Any form of child abuse, inclusive of emotional, physical, sexual or neglect, is intolerable under any circumstances.
- We have a legal, moral, and mission-driven responsibility to protect children and young people from harm and to ensure any incidents of suspected child abuse are promptly and appropriately managed.
- We must be a voice for those who need to be heard and eyes for those who need to be seen, especially those whose ability to communicate is affected by age, ability, cultural background, or language.
- Every child and young person deserve the right to thrive, learn and grow, and to be respected, valued, and enabled to become an effective adult member of the community.
- We believe in the power of inspired Young People, and for Young People to be inspired they must be safe, and they must feel safe.
- We are committed to amplifying the voices of Children and Young People – and truly listening to them.
- Our Safeguarding Vision is that all children and young people are empowered to feel safe and be safe at the Y, in their families and in their communities.

To achieve our Safeguarding Vision, we have developed our Safeguarding Framework. At the heart of our Safeguarding Framework is our Safeguarding Vision, to 'feel safe, be safe'.

Our Safeguarding Vision stands on three Pillars: Culture, Operations and Environment which form our Safeguarding Framework. Our Safeguarding Framework aims to develop:

- A safe culture which empowers children and young people by promoting children and young person focused leadership and governance.
- Safe operations to ensure Y People have the right policies, processes and practices to keep children and young people safe.
- Safe environments at the Y and in communities which empower children and young people to thrive.

The YMCA Hobart's *Policy Statement and Operations Manual* (SGCYP Version 3.0) is endorsed by the YMCA of Hobart Board of Directors. It declares our commitment to the YMCA Australia's Safeguarding Children and Young People Policy and details how that policy is to be implemented by the YMCA of Hobart.

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Dated 28th October 2021

Board Approved Commitment

YMCA of HOBART

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