

## Our Commitment to the Safety of Children

We are committed to providing a safe and secure environment for children at all of our sites and also when we provide services in the community. Gateway Health's commitment to child safety is detailed within our Child Safe & Child Friendly Policy, Child Safe Policy and Code of Conduct.

Gateway Health:

- believes that any form of child abuse, or situations where children feel unsafe or are put in danger are unacceptable, and we will act quickly and strongly to respond to any allegations or threats of harm through appropriate channels.
- provides services in a way that empowers children and encourages their participation in their healthcare, including a safe environment to make complaints and raise concerns.
- has a special focus on the cultural safety of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children, the cultural safety of culturally and linguistically diverse children and the safety of children with disability.
- takes all reasonable steps to ensure we employ skilled, ethical and responsible people through various human resource checks and processes including mandatory Working With Children Checks and Police Record Checks for all staff and volunteers.
- provides ongoing learning and professional development for staff and volunteers in current child safe practices and standards.
- has processes for identifying, reducing and responding to risks of child abuse.
- supports and complies with the principles contained in the [United Nations Convention of the Rights of the Child](#) and the [Child Safe Standards](#), produced by the Commission for Children and Young People. For more information about the Commission and the Standards visit their [website](#).

### Useful links and contact details

#### Kids Helpline:

If you are under 18, are worried about something and would like some advice or support you can call the kids Helpline on 1800 551 800, email them at [counsellor@kidshelpline.com.au](mailto:counsellor@kidshelpline.com.au) or visit their [website](#) to chat with someone online.

#### Child Protection

If you are concerned about the immediate safety of a child call the police on 000.

The Department of Human Services Child Protection Service offers services for children and young people at risk of harm. Visit their [website](#) for further information about the service and contact details.

#### Kidsafe

Provide information and education on preventing childhood accidents. See their [website](#) for further information and contact details.

If you think a child is in danger and / or at risk of abuse call the **Police: 000**

If you would like more information about our commitment to child safety, please contact our Quality Coordinator on (02) 6022 8888