

The Queer Society

Child Safe Environment Policy

Date: 20th February 2024



Purpose

The purpose of this Child Safe Environment Policy is to create and maintain a safe and supportive environment for children and young people associated with The Queer Society, in accordance with South Australian legislation, including the Children and Young People (Safety) Act 2017 and any relevant regulations.

Commitment

The Queer Society is committed to promoting the safety, wellbeing, and rights of children and young people and protecting them from harm. This policy outlines the organisation's commitment to creating and maintaining a child-safe environment.

Principles

The following principles guide The Queer Society in ensuring a child-safe environment:

- a. Zero tolerance for child abuse: The Queer Society has zero tolerance for child abuse, and any allegations or suspicions of child abuse will be treated seriously and reported to the appropriate authorities.
- b. Child empowerment: The Queer Society values and respects the rights of children and young people, and actively seeks their participation in decision-making processes that affect them.
- c. Diversity, Inclusion, Equity and Belonging: The Queer Society is committed to providing an equitable, inclusive and diverse environment that respects the individual needs and cultural backgrounds of all children and young people fostering a sense of belonging for all.
- d. Transparent communication: The Queer Society promotes open and transparent communication with children, young people, their families, and the broader community about child safety measures and reporting procedures.

Code of Conduct

All individuals associated with The Queer Society, including employees, volunteers, contractors, and stakeholders, are expected to adhere to a Code of Conduct that outlines appropriate behaviour when interacting with children and young people. This includes guidelines on communication, supervision, and maintaining appropriate boundaries.

Recruitment and Training

The Queer Society is committed to employing and engaging individuals who are suitable to work with children and young people. This includes thorough background checks, reference checks, and mandatory training on child safety policies and procedures.

Reporting Procedures

Any concerns, suspicions, or allegations of child abuse or harm must be reported immediately in accordance with The Queer Society's Mandatory Reporting Policy and South Australian legislation.

Review and Update

This Child Safe Environment Policy will be reviewed regularly to ensure it remains in compliance with current South Australian legislation. Any necessary updates will be made promptly.

This policy is effective as of 20th February 2024.

[The Queer Society](#)

hello@thequeersociety.org

Version 1	Child Safe Environment Policy Adopted by The Queer Society Board	February 2024
Review Date:		February 2027