

Statement of Commitment

Protecting Children and Young People

Leap in! is dedicated to providing high-quality support services within the disability sector, prioritising the safety, wellbeing, and rights of all children and young people. We recognise our responsibility to uphold the highest standards of conduct, especially when working with children with disabilities, who are among the most vulnerable members of our community.

This commitment is grounded in the *Queensland Child Protection Act 1999*, and we are dedicated to fostering a safe, inclusive, and culturally sensitive environment for our staff, members, and their support networks.

Leap in! is committed to:

- **Prioritising the Safety and Wellbeing of Children and Young People:**
 - We will take all reasonable steps to protect children and young people from "harm" as defined in the *Queensland Child Protection Act 1999*, including physical, sexual, and emotional abuse, and neglect.
- **Mandatory Reporting:**
 - All Leap in! employees, volunteers, contractors, and Board members have a legal obligation to report any reasonable suspicion of child abuse or neglect to the Department of Children, Youth Justice and Multicultural Affairs (DCYJMA) or the Queensland Police Service (QPS).
 - We will provide clear guidelines and training on how to make a report and the contact information for relevant authorities.
- **Cultural Safety and Inclusion:**
 - We are committed to providing safe and inclusive services, particularly for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children and young people, respecting their cultural values and practices.
- **Disability and Vulnerability:**
 - We acknowledge the heightened vulnerability of children with disabilities and will implement practices that address their specific needs and ensure their safety.
- **Privacy and Information Sharing:**
 - We will protect the privacy of children and young people, while also adhering to legal requirements for information sharing with relevant authorities in child protection matters.
 - We will adhere to all information sharing guidelines within the NDIS.

Statement of Commitment – Protecting Children and Young People

DOC-GLRC-02-01.1

V1.1

Effective 5/1/2023

Page 1 of 2

This document becomes uncontrolled when printed

- **Continuous Improvement and Training:**

- We will continuously review and improve our child protection policies, procedures, and systems to ensure they reflect current best practices and legislative requirements.
- We will provide regular, mandatory training for all staff on child protection legislation, policies, and procedures.

- **Code of Conduct:**

- Our Code of Conduct provides guiding principles for all staff, volunteers, contractors, and Board members, reinforcing our commitment to child safety and ethical practice.
- The Code of Conduct will be regularly reviewed and updated.

- **Inclusive Environment:**

- We will provide an inclusive and supportive environment for all staff, members and their support teams.

This Statement of Commitment applies to all individuals associated with Leap in!, including employees, volunteers, contractors, and Board members. We are dedicated to creating a safe and supportive environment where children and young people can thrive.

Revision history

Version	Change	Approval	Date
1.0	Creation	Board	15/01/2023
1.0	Review and re-approval	Board	21/02/2024
1.1	Elaboration on key concepts, listing of key legislation, inclusion of the definition of harm, training requirements.	Board	