



Statement of commitment to child safety

Ruah is committed to the safety and wellbeing of children and young people. Ruah has zero tolerance for child abuse. Ruah is committed to providing a child safe environment where children and young people are safe and feel safe, and their voices are heard about decisions that affect their lives.

Particular attention will be paid to the cultural safety of Aboriginal children, children from culturally and/or linguistically diverse backgrounds, LGBTI+ young people, as well as the safety of children with a **disability**. Every person involved in Ruah has a responsibility to understand the important and specific role they play, individually and collectively, to ensure that the wellbeing and safety of children and young people is at the forefront of every decision they make.

National Principles for Child Safe Organisations

1. Child safety and wellbeing is embedded in organisational leadership, governance, and culture.
2. Children and young people are informed about their rights, participate in decisions affecting them and are taken seriously.
3. Families and communities are informed and involved in promoting child safety and wellbeing.
4. Equity is upheld and diverse needs respected in policy and practice.
5. People working with children and young people are suitable and supported to reflect child safety and wellbeing values in practice.
6. Processes to respond to complaints and concerns are child focused.
7. Staff and volunteers are equipped with the knowledge, skills, and awareness to keep children and young people safe through ongoing education and training.
8. Physical and online environments promote safety and wellbeing while minimising the opportunity for children and young people to be harmed.
9. Implementation of the national child safety and wellbeing principles is regularly reviewed and improved.
10. Policies and procedures document how the organisation is safe for children and young people.