

Statement of Commitment to Child Safety and Wellbeing



Statement of Commitment to the Safety and Wellbeing of Children and the Protection of Children from Harm

CheckUP is committed to better health for people and communities that need it most. Consistent with our values of Collaboration, Excellence, Innovation, Integrity and Compassion we will work with children, families and the community to create an environment where we promote and protect human rights and support and respect all children and their families, so children are safe and well.

CheckUP is committed to the continued safety and wellbeing of children and young people across the organisation and in our operations. All children and young people have a right to feel safe and to be safe. This will be a primary focus of the care we provide and the decisions we make.

CheckUP is a recipient of State and Commonwealth funding and embeds the requirements of the Commonwealth Child Safe Framework by:

- implementing the National Principles for Child Safe Organisations;
- undertaking annual child safety risk assessments; and
- establishing and maintaining a system of training and compliance.

CheckUP will take a zero-tolerance approach to child abuse. We will not tolerate any abuse or neglect of children or young people involved in CheckUP programs, projects, and services.

CheckUP is committed to providing a safe environment where children, young people, families and communities feel safe and are confident that children and young people's rights, needs and interests are met, with particular attention paid to the cultural safety of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children, children from culturally and/or linguistically diverse backgrounds, young people who identify as LGBTI+ and the safety of children with a disability.

CheckUP has robust staff and volunteer recruitment practices, a suite of policies and procedures, a Code of Conduct and mandatory child safeguarding training to ensure

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that all our staff and volunteers have the skills and knowledge to best support and care for children.

The following child safety principles guide CheckUP's commitment to child safety and form the basis for the organisation's operations. CheckUP will:

1. Create physical and online environments that are child safe and child friendly.
2. Maintain a culture of openness and transparency.
3. Recognise and accept the moral and legal responsibility to safeguard children from child abuse both inside and outside of CheckUP's physical and online environments.
4. Take a preventative, proactive and early-intervention approach to child safety.
5. Ensure relevant organisational policies, procedures, activities, and expectations will be implemented and communicated across the organisation and its operations.
6. Value and empower children to participate in decisions that affect their lives and take their input seriously.
7. Conduct ongoing risk assessments, management and improvement of all interactions that CheckUP Board Directors, senior management, staff, representatives, contracted health professionals, contractors, consultants, students, visitors and volunteers have with children.
8. Foster a culture that is child and culturally safe that also respects diversity and disability in children and young people.
9. Report suspected abuse, neglect, or mistreatment promptly to the appropriate authorities.
10. Value the input of, and communicate regularly with, families and communities.

Anthony de Ambrosis
Chief Executive Officer

Merrilyn Strohfeldt
Board Chair