

Child Safety

Commitment Statement

Queen Street Early Learning Centre is unwavering in its commitment to the safety, wellbeing, and rights of every child. We provide a safe, inclusive, and respectful environment where all children feel protected, valued, and heard. We uphold our legal duty of care and maintain a zero-tolerance approach to child abuse, in alignment with the National Child Safe Standards (2022), the National Quality Framework, and all relevant legislation. Child safety is embedded in every aspect of our practice and decision-making.

Our Commitment to Children

Children are at the centre of all practices at QSELC. We actively listen to children's voices, respect their perspectives, and respond to their needs in meaningful and developmentally appropriate ways. Through regular child safety experiences and play-based learning, children are supported to understand their rights, identify trusted adults, and develop the confidence to speak up if they feel unsafe.

Children's wellbeing is consistently prioritised through close, active supervision, safe routines, and ongoing monitoring to ensure their physical and emotional safety at all times.

Prevention, Identification, and Response

QSELC implements clear Child Protection and Child Safe Environment policies to prevent, identify, and respond to all forms of abuse and neglect. Educators follow child-safe procedures, maintain professional boundaries, and act promptly on any concerns in line with legislative requirements, the National Child Safe Standards, and the National Quality Standard.

All staff participate in mandatory child protection training throughout the year, supported by comprehensive induction for new employees and students. Ongoing discussions and practice scenarios reinforce shared responsibilities and strengthen our preventative approach. We work collaboratively with families, government agencies, and child protection services to ensure children's safety and wellbeing.

Diversity, Inclusion, and Cultural Safety

We are committed to providing a culturally safe, inclusive, and equitable environment for all children, including children from First Nations communities, diverse cultural backgrounds, LGBTQIA+ families, and children with disabilities. Our daily practice celebrates diversity, individuality, and identity, ensuring every child feels respected, supported, and a strong sense of belonging. Families and community members are welcomed as partners in sharing cultural knowledge and experiences.

Educator, Staff, and Volunteer Accountability

Child safety is a shared responsibility. All educators, staff, and volunteers at QSELC are required to uphold mandatory reporting obligations, follow clear codes of conduct, and engage in ongoing professional development. Staff model respectful behaviour, maintain vigilant supervision, and adhere to safe workplace practices, including strict digital technology use policies.

Regular reflection, supervision, and policy review processes ensure accountability and continuous improvement in maintaining a child-safe culture.

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Empowering Children Through Education

In line with the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child, we empower children through education about safety, personal boundaries, and trusted relationships. Children are encouraged to express their feelings, participate in decision-making, and develop self-advocacy skills. Through everyday interactions, play-based experiences, visual supports, and strong relationships, children's voices are taken seriously and responded to with care and respect.

Partnerships with Families and the Community

We believe child safety is strongest when families, educators, and the community work together. QSELC values open, transparent communication and encourages families to share feedback, ideas, and concerns. Strong community partnerships further support children's understanding of safety, diversity, and belonging beyond the service.

Safe Recruitment and Screening

QSELC is committed to rigorous recruitment and screening practices. All educators, staff, and volunteers are required to hold a valid Working With Children Check, National Police Check, provide referee checks, and complete thorough induction processes that clearly outline child safety expectations, responsibilities, and professional conduct.

At Queen Street Early Learning Centre, child safety is everyone's responsibility. Through continuous training, reflection, and collaboration, we remain committed to creating an environment where every child feels safe, respected, and supported—every day.

Commitment to Children

Children are central to all decisions and practices at QSELC. We actively listen to children's voices, respect their views, and respond appropriately to their concerns. Through weekly child safety learning experiences and play-based approaches, children are supported to understand their rights, identify trusted adults, and develop the confidence to speak up if they feel unsafe. Children's wellbeing is prioritised at all times through consistent, vigilant supervision and a strong culture of care, safety, and respect.