



Statement of Commitment to Child Safety

St Vincent's Private Hospital Toowoomba is committed to upholding the rights and safety of all children.

At St Vincent's we care for the wellbeing for all children and young people entering our facility, whether as a patient or a visitor, and we pay particular attention to the cultural safety of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children, as well as children who are from culturally or linguistically diverse backgrounds. We support the inclusion and protect the safety of children with a disability.

St Vincent's is a child safe facility, and we have no tolerance for child abuse of any form. This includes physical, sexual, psychological, emotional abuse and neglect, as well as any form of violence or harm experienced by the child or young person in the online environment.

All staff at St Vincent's, including hospital staff, volunteers and other healthcare practitioners will act in accordance with our Code of Conduct, and must be aware of their responsibilities regarding child safety. We engage only the most suitable individuals to work with children, and ensure they are supported by committed, experienced senior staff and provided with relevant professional development.

We have ensured our clinical areas in which we usually care for children and young people are safe and secure, and promote work practices which promote a welcoming, respectful environment.

We respect and encourage participation of children and young people in making decisions regarding their health care, and support family and carer participation during the hospital admission process. We make sure children's voices are heard, not only regarding health care decisions, but in other decisions that affect their lives. We ensure children and young people know who to talk to if they feel unsafe or concerned, and that they can feel seen and heard. We respect differences in child rearing practices, while keeping child safety our top priority.

At St Vincent's we are privileged to have the opportunity to care for some of our most vulnerable community members, and commit to continue being a safe place for all children and young people.