

C&K's Child Protection Commitment Statement

C&K acknowledges protecting children is a fundamental responsibility for the organisation, team members, families and communities.

C&K will:

- Advocate the importance of child protection both internally and externally of C&K.
- Work collaboratively with statutory child protection agencies, early childhood health agencies, family support services and the Office for Early Childhood Education and Care.
- Ensure all team members have access to annual child protection training specific to the education and care sector.
- Provide team members with cultural awareness training to assist in developing an understanding of cross cultural child protection issues in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander and Culturally and Linguistically Diverse families.
- Review child protection policy documents to ensure they reflect current best practice, recommended guidelines and legislation.
- Investigate allegations of child harm within services in a timely and professional manner, according to C&K policy.
- Periodically record and report on child protection matters and incidents.
- Use child protection data to implement preventative strategies to minimise the incidents of child harm.
- Ensure the importance of child protection is highlighted in recruitment, selection and induction processes.

All team members will:

- Ensure protecting children is an integral part of all decision-making.
- Use preventative and risk management strategies to minimise harm to children.
- Raise the awareness of child protection matters with C&K families and the community.
- Participate in annual child protection training and maintain an understanding of C&K policy.
- Strive to continually improve child protection prevention and management practices.
- Report any incidents of child harm according to C&K policy and legislation requirements.
- Follow C&K policy to ensure child and family information is kept confidential.
- Work together with families and support them in their parenting role and ensure that children receive any specialist support they require.
- Respect, acknowledge and honour the diversity of children and families and ensure practices are inclusive and equitable, recognising the complex challenges that impact upon families.
- Maintain an awareness and understanding of the cross-cultural issues relating to child abuse and neglect in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander and Culturally and Linguistically Diverse families.
- Understand their professional, legal and moral obligations in relation to protecting children.
- Seek support and guidance from C&K to ensure best practice in relation to child protection matters.

Educators will:

- Provide an education and care program that supports children's physical, emotional, social, intellectual, cultural and familial safety.
- Ensure teaching practices promote child safety at all times.
- Empower and support children who may be experiencing difficulty in their lives with sensitivity, warmth and security.
- Cater for the needs of children who require specialist intervention or have additional needs.
- Ensure practices reflect a 'strengths based model' that supports children and families and reflect the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child.
- Liaise and collaborate with early intervention and prevention services to provide holistic services that work towards improving outcomes for all children and families.

Where children come first

