



AUSTRALIAN RAPTORS RUGBY ACADEMY INCORPORATED.

STATEMENT OF COMMITMENT TO CHILD SAFETY

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The Director of Governance is responsible for this document.	

1. Our Commitment

The Australian Raptors Rugby Academy (ARRA) is fully committed to ensuring the safety, well-being, and empowerment of all children and young people involved in our programs. We prioritise a child-safe culture where all players, staff, volunteers, and community members actively work to protect children from harm and uphold the highest standards of integrity, inclusivity, and care.

ARRA aligns with the NSW Child Safe Standards, the Child Protection (Working with Children) Act 2012 (NSW), and Rugby Australia's Member Protection Policy, ensuring that all practices reflect best-practice child safeguarding principles.

2. Our Principles of Child Safety

ARRA is committed to:

- Creating a safe environment where children feel secure, respected, and empowered to express concerns.
- Zero tolerance for any form of abuse, harm, neglect, bullying, or misconduct against children.
- Actively listening to and respecting the voices of children and young people, ensuring they have a say in decisions that affect them.
- Embracing and respecting the diversity of all children, including Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children, children from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds, LGBTQIA+ youth, and children with disabilities.
- Implementing rigorous recruitment and training, ensuring all staff, coaches, and volunteers undergo Working with Children Checks (WWCC) and receive training in child safety, reporting obligations, and best-practice safeguarding measures.
- Maintaining clear reporting and accountability through a confidential, accessible, and child-friendly process for reporting child safety concerns, ensuring prompt and appropriate action.
- Continuously reviewing and strengthening our child safety policies and procedures to ensure ongoing compliance with regulatory requirements and best practices.

3. Our Responsibilities

All ARRA staff, volunteers, and community members must:

- Uphold Rugby Australia's Code of Conduct and Member Protection Policy at all times.
- Act in the best interests of children, ensuring their safety and well-being.
- Report any concerns related to child safety or misconduct immediately, in accordance with ARRA's Child Safety & Well-being Framework.
- Promote a culture of respect that empowers children to speak up about their experiences.

4. How We Keep Children Safe

ARRA has implemented a Child Safety & Well-being Framework, which includes:

- Mandatory Working with Children Checks (WWCC) for all personnel.
- Comprehensive child safety training for coaches, staff, and volunteers.
- A clear and confidential reporting system for child safety concerns.
- Strict guidelines on appropriate adult-child interactions, including online and social media safety.
- Regular audits and reviews to ensure compliance with child protection standards.

5. Raising Concerns & Reporting Abuse

If you or someone you know has concerns about child safety at ARRA, please report it immediately through one of the following channels:

- **Email:** compliance@raptorsch.org
- **In Person:** Speak with our Member Protection Information Officers (MPIO) at any ARRA event.
- **Online Form:** Complete an online form as per link below:
<https://forms.wix.com/f/6995332648373584234>

All reports are handled confidentially and with urgency, ensuring the safety and well-being of the child remains the top priority.

6. Endorsement & Implementation

This Statement of Commitment to Child Safety has been endorsed by the ARRA Board of Directors and will be reviewed annually to ensure alignment with legal obligations, regulatory updates, and best-practice child safeguarding measures.