

All bestchance programs and services, including the Cheshire School are committed to child safety and wellbeing. Within this Commitment Statement, the term children includes young people and students.

- We want children to be safe, happy and empowered.
- We support and respect all children, staff and volunteers.
- We are committed to encouraging and actively supporting children to express their culture and enjoy their cultural rights.
- We are committed to the safety, participation and empowerment of all children.
- We have zero tolerance for child abuse and all allegations and safety concerns will be treated seriously and consistently in line with our policies and procedures.
- We have legal and moral obligations to contact the relevant authorities when we are concerned about the safety of a child or student, which we follow rigorously.
- We are committed to preventing child abuse and identifying risks early and removing and reducing these risks.
- We have robust human resources and recruitment practices to reduce the risk of child abuse by new and existing Board members, staff and volunteers.
- We are committed to regularly training and educating our Board members, staff and volunteers on child abuse risks.
- We are committed to the cultural safety of Aboriginal children, the safety of children from culturally and/or linguistically diverse backgrounds and to providing a safe environment for children with a disability.
- We promote the (right to) safety of transgender and gender diverse children, students and their families.
- We endeavour to ensure that all students feel included and valued and especially those who are vulnerable and at high risk including those: with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander heritage; living with a disability; with additional learning needs; from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds; unable to live at home; and from the LGBTQIA+ community.
- We have specific policies and procedures in place that support our Board members, staff and volunteers to achieve these commitments.

If you believe a child is at immediate risk, phone 000.

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