



## **Our Statement of Commitment to Keeping Children Safe**



Uniting Church in Australia  
SYNOD OF VICTORIA AND TASMANIA

*This statement is to be formally approved and reviewed annually by the relevant body (council, agency, institution, program, or event committee). No changes or deletions should be made to this commitment without prior consultation with the Synod's Culture of Safety Unit (cultureofsafetycontact@victas.uca.org.au)*

Name of congregation/entity: \_\_\_\_\_

### **This is a statement of our commitment to keeping children safe**

We are committed to implementing the Child Safe Policy of the Uniting Church in Australia, Synod of Victoria and Tasmania so that all children involved in our activities, services, events, and programs are safe and feel safe. We are committed to providing safe environments where children are cared for, respected, nurtured and sustained.

We are committed to embedding child safety and wellbeing in all we do including in our leadership and governance. We have zero tolerance of all forms of child abuse and will do all in our power to safeguard children from abuse.

We are committed to informing children and young people about their rights and to their participation in decisions that affect them. We will take their opinions and suggestions seriously.

We are committed to informing and involving families and communities in promoting child safety and wellbeing.

We are committed to respecting diversity and promoting equity.

We are committed to ensuring people who work with children are suitable for this work and committed to child safety and wellbeing. We will ensure that anyone who works with children is recruited, screened, trained, and supervised well.

We are committed to child focused, culturally appropriate complaints processes. We will take complaints seriously, respond promptly and thoroughly and report abuse to the appropriate authorities.

We are committed to ensuring our leaders and volunteers undertake ongoing education and training on child safety.

We are committed to ensuring our physical and online environments are safe and promote safety.

We are committed to reviewing our practices, procedures, and policies. This includes learning from any accidents or incidents.

We, the [XX Uniting Church Council/other entity] committed to this statement on ...../...../.....(Date).  
The [XX Uniting Church Council/other entity] shared this with the congregation/organisation  
on...../...../..... (Date)

*This document was approved by the General Secretary  
for use across the Synod of Victoria and Tasmania on 21 January 2021*