



100 YEARS STRONG

# SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE STATEMENT

## PURPOSE

CLFC is dedicated to creating and maintaining a safe, supportive, and inclusive environment for all children and young people participating in our programs and activities. We believe that every child and young person has the right to be safe from harm, abuse, and neglect. We aim to promote their wellbeing, health, and human rights by following the below laws and regulations:

- Children and Young Persons (Care and Protection) Act 1998 (NSW)
- Working with Children Act 2012 (NSW)
- Children (education and Care Services) National Law 2010 (NSW)
- NSW Crimes Act 1900
- Privacy Act 1988
- The National Principles for Child Safe Organisations
- Football NSW Policies and Procedures
- Work Health and Safety Act 2011 (NSW)

## SCOPE

This statement applies to all committee members, volunteers, contractors, and anyone involved in activities for children and young people at CLFC. It is designed to ensure that we meet or exceed the requirements outlined in the NSW Children and Young Persons (Care and Protection) Act 1998, the Working with Children Act 2012, and other relevant safeguarding and child protection laws.

## OUR COMMITMENT TO SAFEGUARDING

CLFC is dedicated to:

- Protecting children and young people from all forms of abuse, neglect, exploitation, and harm.
- Promoting the physical, emotional, and psychological wellbeing of children and young people.
- Ensuring that all individuals working with children and young people within our organization are thoroughly vetted, trained, and continually monitored to safeguard their wellbeing.
- Creating a positive and supportive environment where children and young people feel safe, respected, and valued.

## OUR RESPONSIBILITIES

As part of our safeguarding responsibilities, we will:

- Ensure that all committee members and volunteers undergo a Working with Children Check (WWCC) as required by NSW legislation.
- Provide ongoing training and support for all committee members and volunteers on child protection policies, procedures, and responsibilities.
- Adhere to our Code of Conduct, which outlines the expected behaviours and actions when interacting with children and young people.
- Encourage an open, transparent, and supportive culture that empowers children and young people to speak up about any concerns or incidents regarding their safety.



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- Respond promptly and appropriately to safeguarding concerns or incidents, following established child protection protocols.

## REPORTING AND RESPONDING TO SAFEGUARDING CONCERNS

CLFC will:

- Provide clear, accessible, and confidential ways for reporting concerns about the safety or well-being of children and young people.
- Take all reports of suspected abuse, neglect, or inappropriate behaviour seriously and investigate them in a timely and thorough manner.
- Immediately report any concerns of abuse or neglect to the relevant authorities, including NSW Police and the NSW Department of Communities and Justice (DCJ), following legal obligations.
- Protect individuals who raise safeguarding concerns from retaliation or negative consequences.

## INFORMED CONSENT AND PARTICIPATION

We recognise that children and young people have the right to be informed and involved in decisions that affect their lives. As such:

- We will ensure that children and young people understand their rights, including the right to be safe and to speak out.
- We will seek informed consent from both the child and their parent or guardian for participation in activities, providing clear communication about the nature of the activities and any associated risks.
- We will ensure that all activities are appropriate for the age and developmental stage of the children and young people involved.

## REVIEW AND MONITORING

CLFC will regularly review this Safeguarding Statement to ensure it complies with current legislation and reflects best practices. We will also monitor the effectiveness of our procedures and policies to promote continuous improvement and enhance protection for children and young people.

## CONTACT INFORMATION FOR SAFEGUARDING CONCERNS

If you have any safeguarding concerns or wish to report suspected harm or abuse, please contact:

**Officer:** Mayoor Thievendram

**Phone:** 0410 863 776

**Email:** mayourt@hotmail.com

## EXTERNAL REPORTING AGENCIES

**NSW Police:** 02 9797 4099

**Department of Communities and Justice (DCJ) Child Protection Helpline:** 132 111

Canterbury Lions Football Club Committee

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