

Edmund Rice Education Australia Statement of Commitment to Child Safety

All children and young people have a right to feel safe and be safe.

Edmund Rice Education Australia (EREA) is committed to embedding a culture where the safety, wellbeing, and participation of all children and young people under our care is paramount. Particular attention is given to the needs of vulnerable children and young people, including Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children and young people, children and young people with disability and mental health issues, children and young people from culturally and/or linguistically diverse backgrounds, children and young people who are unable to live at home, and those who identify as lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender or intersex. We are committed to at all times acting in the best interests of children and young people.

We have zero tolerance of child abuse and all allegations and safety concerns are treated very seriously and consistent with our robust safeguarding policies and procedures. EREA is committed to nurturing the wellbeing of all children and young people, respecting their dignity, ensuring their safety and protecting them from abuse and other harm. EREA, its schools and its staff, contractors and volunteers have legal and moral obligations to respond swiftly including contacting authorities where relevant when we are concerned about a child's safety, which we follow rigorously.

EREA and its schools demonstrate commitment to the safety and wellbeing of children and young people by:

- taking into consideration the views of children and young people about decisions that affect their safety and wellbeing;
- empowering children and young people by taking their views seriously