



maryvale private
hospital

Commitment to the Safety of Children and Young People

Maryvale Private Hospital is committed to the safety and well-being of children and young people in protecting the most vulnerable members of our community in line with the Child Safe Standards. Children and young people are especially susceptible to physical, emotional, and psychological harm, and we endeavour to create a safe and welcoming environment.

Our commitment to safeguarding children and young people is established through all levels of Maryvale Private Hospital in the following principles:

1. **Zero Tolerance for Child Abuse:** We maintain a zero-tolerance approach to child abuse in any form. Any suspicion or report of child abuse will be thoroughly investigated, and the appropriate actions will be taken to protect the child and address the issue raised.
2. **Child-Centered Approach:** We prioritise the best interests of the child in all our activities and decision-making processes. Every action we take, from treatment to interactions with our young patients, is guided by their well-being and safety.
3. **Safety-Focused Culture & Compliance with Legislation:** We cultivate a culture of safety and vigilance where all staff are responsible for identifying and addressing potential risks to those who work and receive care at the hospital. Reporting mechanisms are in place to ensure that concerns are acted upon promptly. We are fully committed to adhering to the laws and regulations governing child safety and we update our policies to reflect current legal requirements.
4. **Child and Youth Participation:** We value the voices of children and young people of all ages, backgrounds and abilities. We actively encourage children and young people to participate in decisions that affect their care, ensuring their input is considered and respected.
5. **Our Team:** All staff and credentialed practitioners are required to provide confirmation of a valid Victorian Working with Children Check. Staff are required to undertake child safety training to empower staff to speak up in recognising, reporting, and preventing child abuse. A Working with Children Check is required for contractors where there may be direct or incidental contact with children and young people.
6. **Policies:** Our hospital maintains a comprehensive child safety policy and a library of other hospital-wide policies that are easily accessible to staff and credentialed practitioners to support safe care delivery outlining the expectations and responsibilities of all stakeholders.
7. **Open Communication & Reporting:** We encourage open communication between staff, patients, families and relevant authorities. Concerns and feedback are welcomed, and we are committed to responding promptly and appropriately to any issues raised – you can raise a concern at any time to any employee or by contacting a member of the Executive Team on (03) 5132 1200 or enquiry@maryvaleph.com.au

Therese Tierney

Therese Tierney
Chair, Board of Directors
Maryvale Private Hospital
18 October 2023

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18 October 2023