# Children, Young People and Families Engagement Strategy



Swinburne University of Technology is committed to child safety and facilitating a child safe environment. Swinburne aims to protect any child associated with a university-related activity, with this being shared responsibility across all staff, students, volunteers, contactors, and visitors.

It is recognised that the voice of children, young people, their families, and the community is of upmost importance to providing an environment that is safe and supportive of children and their diverse needs.

To this end, Swinburne seeks to facilitate open and transparent communication with children, young people and their families on matters relating to child safety. This plan outlines Swinburne's strategy to engage with children, young people, and their families, to have their input into child safety policies, processes, procedures, decisions, and other relevant matters.

The strategy is comprised of the following key action areas:

# Promoting cultural safety

- · Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students under the age of 18 and their families are made aware of, and encouraged to engage with the Indigenous Student Services through the Moodani Toombadool Centre.
- Overseas and international students under the age of 18 and their families are made aware of, and encouraged to engage with the International Student Advisory and Support service.
- Students with a disability or diverse needs under the age of 18 and their families are made aware of, and encouraged to engage with the AccessAbility service.

# Increasing awareness

- All of Swinburne's child safety information, policies, and procedures are available on the public facing website and highlighted to children, young people and families who are engaged with Swinburne.
- Students under the age of 18 and their families are made aware of all student supports and services at Swinburne upon enrolment and throughtout their studies.
- Swinburne's child safety policies and procedures and displayed in accessible and easy to read formats.

#### Seeking feedback

- Feedback form is made available to children, young people and families on Swinburne's public facing Child Safety webpage.
- Annual focus group discussions are arranged for identified student cohorts under the age of 18 to provide their feedback and input on child safety matters.
- Information regarding Swinburne's formal complaints process is made available on Swinburne's public facing webpage to ensure all children, young people and their families understand how to raise concerns relating to child safety.

# Providing transparency

- All known child safety incidents reported to the university are made available on Swinburne's public facing webpage.
- All relevant review findings regarding child safety concerns are made available on Swinburne's public facing webpage.
- If a child safety matter is being investigated by the unviersity, the relevant child(ren) and their family members are advised of decisions and outcomes where appropriate.

# **Further information**

Email safercommunity@swin.edu.au

Web swin.edu.au/safercommunity

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