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**Royal Flying Doctor Service**  
QUEENSLAND SECTION

## **RFDS Annual Child Safety Statement of Compliance**

The Royal Flying Doctor Service - Queensland Section (**RFDS**) is committed to ensuring the safety and wellbeing of children during their interactions with the RFDS. The RFDS maintains its commitment in alignment with the Commonwealth Child Safe Framework and the National Principles for Child Safe Organisations.

The RFDS is dedicated to providing vital healthcare to everyone, including children, across Queensland. Employees' exposure to dealing with children may vary based on their role, they may have minimal to no interaction in some roles or interaction on a daily basis in other roles, including those involved in the delivery of aeromedical, telehealth and primary healthcare services. The RFDS seeks to ensure children are heard and supported to participate in decisions about their healthcare, and to foster strong foundations for lifelong health and wellbeing.

The RFDS has undertaken the following work to further strengthen and embed child safety practices across the organisation:

- Completing a Working with Children Risk Assessment;
- Reviewing recruitment processes to ensure that all staff who may interact with children have completed the relevant background checks and are appropriately qualified for the work they are performing;
- Undertaking a gap analysis against the National Principles for Child Safe Organisations to enable the RFDS to plan for continued compliance with the Commonwealth Child Safety Framework;
- Developing risk assessment and mitigation tools in alignment with the National Principles for Child Safe Organisations.

The RFDS firmly believes that children should feel safe, respected, valued and protected from harm and is committed to ensuring its staff reflect these values in their interactions with children. Building on the work already undertaken, the RFDS will develop training programs for staff in child facing roles to support their continuous learning and development in relation to child safety. The RFDS will also continue to make its whistleblower policy and hotline available to support individuals to raise child safety concerns and is committed to taking any concerns raised seriously.

The RFDS will continue to embed child safety practices and initiatives by strengthening compliance with the National Principles for Child Safe Organisations across the organisation.