



QUEANBEYAN PLAYERS CHILD PROTECTION

CHILD PROTECTION POLICY

Purpose

This policy is designed to:

- Ensure that Queanbeyan Players (QP) meets its responsibilities for the safety welfare and well-being of children and young people.
- Guide all members in appropriate conduct for contact with children and young people during all facets of a production.
- Provide clarity for relevant members around their legal responsibilities as mandatory reporters of harm to children and young people under section 27 of the *Children and Young Persons (Care and Protection) Act 1998*
- Specify procedures applied in the event a member is the subject of a reportable allegation.

Scope

- This policy applies to all members, production teams, cast and crew, and any other persons involved in QP activities.
- Adherence to this policy is a requirement for all members of QP under the Code of Conduct policy.
- This policy is in effect during all activities and engagements relating to QP.

Policy

Queanbeyan Players (QP) is committed to promoting the safety, welfare and well-being of children and young people to whom the organisation provides a service or with whom the organisation has contact. The safety, welfare and well-being of the child or young person is the paramount consideration in service delivery to any members or patrons under 18 years.

All persons involved in QP activities are required to conduct themselves in a manner that respects the right of all children to safety and protection from all forms of abuse and neglect. Unless there are reasonable practical obstacles to doing so, members having direct contact with a child or young person should ensure that either another QP member or other responsible adult (e.g.: parent, carer or teacher) is present at all times. It is QP's policy that all rehearsals and shows with children under the age of 16, will have a parental supervisor at all times.

Specific positions in the organisation, who will be involved in productions and/or other activities involving children, will be required to present or undergo a Working with Children check.

Risk of significant harm to children will be reported in accordance with the law. Section 27 of the *Children and Young Persons (Care and Protection) Act 1998* requires all members to report to the QP Committee if they suspect that a child is at risk of significant harm.

QUEANBEYAN PLAYERS CHILD PROTECTION

In addition, members who in the course of their duties, observe or receive information that leads them to form the belief that a child or young person is at risk of significant harm, are required to report the matter to the Committee.

Allegations of convictions of reportable conduct made against members or others will be reported and responded to in accordance with the law.

Records kept in relation to child protection matters will be maintained in separate secure storage. Access to such records will be strictly limited and controlled, and confidentiality of parties involved will be maintained.

QP will comply with the *Children and Young Persons (Care and Protection) Act 1998* for the engagement of children for events, photography or other entertainment.

For further, more detailed information and current requirements, reference should be made to the following NSW and ACT legislation:

[Child Protection \(Working With Children\) Act 2012](#)

[Child Protection \(Working With Children\) Act Regulation 2013](#)

[Children and Young Persons \(Care and Protection\) Act 1998](#)

[Commission for Children and Young People Act 1998](#)

[Children and Young People Act 2008 \(ACT\) \(as QP sometimes rehearse and perform in the ACT, we have also listed this legislation\)](#)

This policy was last updated on **07 May 2021**.

This policy is to be reviewed bi-annually at a minimum