



The Arc Statement of Commitment to Child Safety

The Arc is committed to the child safety standards as set out by [Snow Australia Policy](#).

The Arc is committed to the safety and wellbeing of all children and young people. This remains central to our care and decision-making.

The Arc has zero tolerance for child abuse, nor any kind of abusive behaviour.

The Arc is committed to providing a child safe environment where children and young people are safe and feel safe, and their voices are heard about decisions that affect their lives. Particular attention will be paid to the cultural safety of children from culturally and/or linguistically diverse backgrounds, as well as the safety of children with a disability.

Every person involved in The Arc has a responsibility to understand the important and specific role he/she plays individually and collectively to ensure that the wellbeing and safety of all children and young people is at the forefront of all they do and every decision they make.

In its planning, decision-making and operations The Arc:

1. Takes a preventative, proactive and participatory approach to child and young person safety, including but not limited to:
 - a. ensuring all coaching staff have the highest level of qualifications to coach children together with valid Working With Children's Checks;
 - b. ensuring all coaching staff know and understand Snow Australia's Child Safeguarding policies;
 - c. ensuring easy and confidential reporting processes are maintained and communicated to participant families and children;
2. Values and empowers children to have a say and contribute to decisions affecting them and their training with The Arc;

3. Nurtures a culture of openness that supports all participant families, coaches or anyone else involved in The Arc to safely disclose risks of harm to children. The Arc makes it known to participant families the procedures to report any issues or threats of issues;
4. Respects diversity in cultures and child rearing practices while keeping child safety central to The Arc's operations;
5. Provides written guidance on appropriate conduct and behaviour towards children to any staff, service providers or otherwise involved in The Arc's operations;
6. Engages only the most suitable people to work with children and have high quality staff and volunteer supervision and professional development;
7. Ensures children know who to talk with if they are worried or are feeling unsafe, and that they are comfortable and encouraged to raise such issues;
8. Is committed to reporting suspected abuse, neglect or mistreatment promptly to the appropriate authorities;
9. Is committed to sharing information appropriately and lawfully with other organisations where the safety and wellbeing of children may be at risk;
10. Values the input of and communicates regularly with families and carers; and
11. The Arc reviews its policy and standards in relation to Child Safeguarding annually to ensure strict compliance with Government Standards.

Resources:

Responding and Reporting a Breach to the Child Safeguarding Policy

https://www.sportintegrity.gov.au/sites/default/files/SIA_Child%20Safeguarding%20Policy%20Flow%20Chart_04.pdf

Snow Australia: Statement of Commitment to Child Safety

<https://www.snow.org.au/integrity/safeguarding/>

Sport Integrity Australia: Child Safe Practices: Do's & Don'ts

https://www.sportintegrity.gov.au/sites/default/files/SIA009-0722_Child%20Safeguarding%20Safe%20Practices%20Booklet-1-2.pdf

Sport Integrity Australia eLearning

<https://elearning.sportintegrity.gov.au/>