



Child Safety Code of Conduct

All paid and unpaid staff, including Directors and volunteers of Regional Housing Limited (RHL) are responsible for the safety and wellbeing of children and young people who engage with RHL. All paid and unpaid staff are expected to act in accordance with this Code of Conduct in their physical and online interactions with children and young people under the age of 18 years.

I will:

- Act in accordance with RHL's child safety and wellbeing policies and procedures at all times.
- Behave respectfully, courteously and ethically towards children and their families and towards other staff.
- Listen and respond to the views and concerns of children, particularly if they communicate (verbally or non-verbally) that they do not feel safe or well.
- Promote the human rights, safety and wellbeing of all children involved with RHL.
- Demonstrate appropriate personal and professional boundaries.
- Consider and respect the diverse backgrounds and needs of children.
- Create an environment that promotes and enables children's participation and is welcoming, culturally safe and inclusive for all children and their families.
- Involve children in making decisions about activities, policies and processes that concern them wherever possible.
- Contribute, where appropriate, to RHL's policies, discussions, learning and reviews about child safety and wellbeing.
- Identify and mitigate risks to children's safety and wellbeing as required by RHL's risk assessment and management policy or process.
- Respond to any concerns or complaints of child harm or abuse promptly and in line with RHL's policy and procedure for receiving and responding to complaints.
- Report all suspected or disclosed child harm or abuse as required by *Criminal Code (Child Sexual Offences Reform) and Other Legislation Amendment Act 2020* and by RHL's policy and procedure on internal and external reporting.
- Comply with RHL's protocols on communicating with children.
- Comply with *Privacy Act 1988 (Cth)*, *Information Privacy Act 2009 (Qld)* and RHL's policies and procedures on record keeping and information sharing.

I will NOT:

- Engage in any unlawful activity with or in relation to a child.
- Engage in any activity that is likely to physically, sexually or emotionally harm a child.
- Unlawfully discriminate against any child or their family members.
- Be alone with a child unnecessarily.
- Arrange personal contact, including online contact, with children I am working with for a purpose unrelated to RHL's activities.
- Disclose personal or sensitive information about a child, including images of a child, unless the child and

their parent or legal guardian consent or unless I am required to do so by RHL's policy and procedure on reporting.

- Use inappropriate language in the presence of children, or show or provide children with access to inappropriate images or material.
- Work with children while under the influence of alcohol or prohibited drugs.
- Ignore or disregard any suspected or disclosed child harm or abuse.

If I think this Code of Conduct has been breached by another person in RHL, I will:

- Act to prioritise the best interests of children.
- Take actions promptly to ensure that children are safe.
- Promptly report any concerns to my manager, the Chief Executive Officer or another manager or leader in RHL.
- Follow RHL's policies and procedures for receiving and responding to complaints and concerns.
- Comply with legislative requirements on reporting if relevant, and with RHL's policy and procedure on internal and external reporting.

Declaration			
I agree to abide by this Code of Conduct during my employment with RHL.			
I understand that breaches of this Code of Conduct may lead to disciplinary action or termination of my employment with RHL.			
Full Name			
Signature		Date	