



familybasedcare Tasmania

PROTECTION OF MINORS POLICY

ID No: FBC-18-410

Version: 1.0

Applies to: All Employees, Volunteers, Contractors

Applicable Standards:

- National Framework for Protecting Australia's Children 2009-2020

Applicable Legislation:
Contractual Obligations:

- Program Guidelines
- Working With Vulnerable Persons Card
- National Police Check

All children connected to Family Based Care Tasmania (FBC) have the right to be safe, receive care and support, and obtain services they need to succeed in life. FBC delivers services (including on behalf of governments) and actively promotes child safety, protection, rights, and wellbeing.

The primary responsibility for raising children belongs to the parent / guardian. Protecting children is everyone's responsibility. Families, communities, governments, businesses, and services all have a role, with all groups working together.

The National Framework for Protecting Australia's Children 2009 – 2020 sets out six supporting outcomes and strategies as guidance in the protection of minors:

1. Children live in safe and supportive families and communities;
2. Children and families access adequate support to promote safety and intervene early;
3. Risk factors for child abuse and neglect are addressed;
4. Children who have been abused or neglected receive the support and care they need for their safety and wellbeing;
5. Indigenous children are supported and safe in the families and communities; and
6. Child sexual abuse and exploitation is prevented and survivors receive adequate support.

FBC employees will be guided by the above strategies when working with Minors.

Tasmanian Agency Functions

The responsibilities of the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) cover a broad range of services, including Disability, Child, Youth and Family Services, and offer partnership arrangements between DHHS and Service Providers such as FBC, with a client focus and quality assured.

The Tasmanian Commissioner for Children examines legislation, policy, and practices that affect the health, welfare, care, protection, and development of all children which includes all children and young people under the age of 18 years.

Working with Children and Vulnerable People (WWVP) / National Police Check (NPC)

It is a condition of employment with FBC that all employees are required to have Working with Children and Vulnerable Peoples certification (WWVP), as per the Vulnerable People Act 2013, and a NPC. These screening tools are in place to mitigate the possibility of the risk of harm or neglect to vulnerable people.

WWVP and NPC must be obtained prior to commencing work. They will be interrogated, and their currency must be maintained to remain an employee / volunteer / contractor.

General Procedures

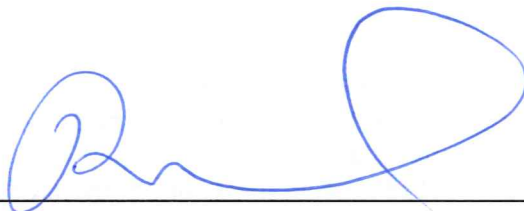
At all times:

- the best interests of the minor must be considered;
- interaction must be respectful;
- good communication must be maintained to all involved;
- ensure the minor is safe;
- remain culturally responsive.

Process for Reporting

It is mandatory for employees / volunteers / contractors to report an incident or suspicion of a case of the safety of a minor being compromised. A Client Incident Form must be completed if an employee / volunteer / contractor knows or suspects a minor has been compromised. An investigation by the most appropriate person / team will be undertaken.

Authorised
by:



President of the Board

Date:

18/2/2019