



2023 EDITION

BREAKING THE SILENCE

Keeping You Safe at Camping Activities with the Presbyterian Church PRIMARY YEARS

POLICY STATEMENT

This is what leaders in the Presbyterian Church NSW promise they will do.

- We will respect everyone's minds, feelings, and bodies. The church has rules for leaders to follow to help you and everyone to be safe.
- We will always do our best to show that you can trust us by being safe and respectful.
- You can speak to us if you are not feeling well, or you are worried about anything. If you are feeling uncomfortable about talking to us, ask another kid to come with you with you.
- You can talk to us or a trusted adult (like a parent who is at church/at camp) who will listen to you if you are worried about something at camp/church.
- You will get help if you do speak up. We will ask what will help you to feel safe and offer help and support. Speaking up can help other kids to be safe too.
- If someone is doing something that is hurting others or making others feel uncomfortable or unsafe it is important to tell a leader. Everyone has a right to be safe. We will work out what needs to happen to help everyone be safe.
- One way we help everyone to feel safe is by always having at least 2 leaders present at any activity. Leaders are never to be alone with kids and we make sure other people can see us when we are together in a group.
- As a church we need to follow the **Child Safe Standards**. These are special rules from the Office of the Children's Guardian to help churches and other places be safe for kids.
- Our leaders are trained and given information to make sure they know and follow the rules to keep children safe.
- We are not allowed to have boyfriend/girlfriend relationships with children or teenagers we are caring for in our groups.
- As much as possible, we will keep what you tell us with only the adults who need to know. If we are really worried about someone being unsafe, we may need to tell other people whose job it is to work with children and families to help them.
- The Conduct Protocol Unit (CPU) is the name for the group in the church which helps leaders to keep everyone safe. Leaders can tell the CPU if they are very worried about a child or children to help everyone be safe.