

WORD BY MOUTH CHILD SAFE POLICY SUMMARY

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WBM CHILD SAFETY OFFICER
Melinda Schambre
Chief Clinical Officer
Principal Speech and Language
Pathologist

As the WBM Child Safety Officer

COMMITMENT TO CHILD SAFETY:

Word By Mouth Pty Ltd (WBM) is committed to child safety. This policy meets the obligations and objectives as outlined by the Victorian Child Safe Standards (2022), specifically:

- We ensure that the health, safety and wellbeing of all children receiving speech pathology from WBM is protected at all times;
- We protect all children from any reasonable, foreseeable risk of injury or harm; and
- We support the rights of all children to feel safe, and be safe, at all times.

WBM is committed to the safety, participation and empowerment of all children. We support and respect all clients, as well as our staff and parents. We have zero tolerance to child abuse and all allegations of harm and safety concerns will be dealt with immediately. We have legal, ethical and moral obligations to contact authorities when we are worried about a child's safety. WBM is committed to regularly training and educating our staff and volunteers on child safety risks.

We are committed to the safety of all children, including the cultural safety of Aboriginal children, the cultural safety of children from a culturally and/or linguistically diverse

CHILD SAFE STANDARDS:

- **Standard 1:** Organisations establish a culturally safe environment in which the diverse and unique identities and experiences of Aboriginal children and young people are respected and valued.
- **Standard 2:** Child safety and wellbeing is embedded in organisational leadership, governance and culture.
- **Standard 3:** Children and young people are empowered about their rights, participate in decisions affecting them and are taken seriously.
- **Standard 4:** Families and communities are informed and involved in promoting child safety and wellbeing.
- **Standard 5:** Equity is upheld, and diverse needs respected in policy and practice.
- **Standard 6:** People working with children and young people are suitable and supported to reflect child safety and wellbeing values in practice.
- **Standard 7:** Processes for complaints and concerns are child-focussed.
- **Standard 8:** Staff and volunteers are equipped with the knowledge, skills and awareness to keep children and young people safe through ongoing education and training.