

Child Protection Policy

When referenced in this document, Raw Energy Dance Education (REDED) includes the Australian School of Performing Arts (ASPA) and ASPA Education.

Raw Energy Dance Education (REDED) adheres to the National Principles for Child Safe Organisations as well as the relevant Child Safe Standards in each state and territory. REDed staff members adhere to the Child Safe Code of Conduct and understand they have a legal obligation to protect the children in our care. This policy outlines the key points of Child Protection at REDed.

Our REDed community is comprised of many individuals, working together to achieve common goals. We are proud to have such a diverse group of students and we are committed to providing a safe physical and emotional environment for all students and staff members.

Please note that this document touches on some sensitive topics about Child Protection; should you have any questions please talk to the ED – Corporate Services, Kylie Lee-Archer.

The National Principles for Child Safe Organisations are:

- Child safety and wellbeing is embedded in organisational leadership, governance and culture.
- Children and young people are informed about their rights, participate in decisions affecting them and are taken seriously.
- Families and communities are informed and involved in promoting child safety and wellbeing.
- Equity is upheld and diverse needs respected in policy and practice.
- Processes to respond to complaints and concerns are child focussed.
- People working with children are suitable and supported to reflect child safety and wellbeing values in practice.
- Staff members are equipped with the knowledge, skills and awareness to keep children and young people safe through ongoing education and training.
- Physical and online environments promote safety and wellbeing while minimising the opportunity for children and young people to be harmed.
- Implementation of national child safe principles is regularly reviewed and improved.
- Policies and procedures document how the organisation is safe for children and young people.

Child Safe Environments Training

REDED has strategies in place to supervise, train and support staff members to understand their mandatory reporting obligations and their responsibilities to create a child safe environment.

These strategies include, but are not limited to:

- all staff members receiving an induction pack with their appointment letter that includes access to the ASPA Staff Handbook and all relevant child safe policies and procedures
- REDed senior staff members reiterate child safe procedures, including mandatory reporting obligations where relevant, at our annual ASPA Essentials National Staff Meeting and REDed Team Training Day
- encouraging staff members to invite students to provide their input and be involved in classroom activity decisions, and raise any complaints or concerns with a staff member, or by contacting Head Office.

Child Participation

If any students experience or observe bullying or unsafe behaviour or practices, we encourage them to:

- make it clear to their peers that this is not acceptable behaviour
- speak with an REDed staff member or contact Head Office



Reporting of Suspected Harm

Australian States and Territories have different laws in regard to the reporting of suspected harm. Please refer to the specific Acts listed at the end of this policy. All staff members are invited to seek the support of the Executive Director – Corporate Services, Kylie Lee-Archer, in any case they feel concerned about the safety of a REDed participant.

Harm refers to physical or psychological harm (whether caused by an act or omission), including harm caused by sexual, physical, mental or emotional abuse or neglect.

Suspected Harm is, but is not limited to, the risk of significant harm in relation to current concerns. Current concerns may relate to:

- harm that is recent
- harm that is likely in the foreseeable future if nothing changes
- The child having contact with someone who has caused significant harm to either them or another child in the past
- Past harm with a continuing and significant impact on the child

REDed staff members may direct concerns in relation to a child or young person to the ED – Corporate Services for advice and to make a report, if required.

Working With Children Checks and Child Employment

REDed adheres to the relevant state and territory working with Children and Child Employment Acts. It is a condition of employment at REDed that staff members and contractors hold a valid Working with Children Check or equivalent for their state or territory, in accordance with their state or territory guidelines.

All candidates for employment are provided with a job description outlining their role responsibilities and are subject to interviews and referee checks.

Use of Images, Audio and Video

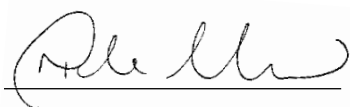
By enrolling in a REDed program, parents and guardians allow REDed the use of photographs, audio and video recordings of relevant activities for educational purposes, staff training and in promotional material. All media will support a positive message and will not include the child's full name. To withdraw permission for your child, please follow the opt-out procedure in Dance Studio Pro. Use of REDed school program images for REDed promotional purposes only are negotiated on a case by case basis with individuals and schools.

REDed informs parents, guardians and staff members that they cannot photograph or film students during session times for personal use.

Please refer to the website for the REDed Privacy Policy. If staff members or families have any concerns regarding an image posted on our social media platforms or used in a promotional campaign, or feel it may be harmful, please contact the Executive Director – Marketing and Business Development, Jasmine Cruickshank on 03 9859 6499 or via email to headoffice@aspagroup.com.au. Jasmine will review the image and respond to the query as soon as practicable.

Informing the REDed community of the legislative liability of Child Protection

All REDed staff members receive a copy of this policy upon appointment, and in the case of a policy revision, along with the Child Safe Code of Conduct. Students, parents and guardians are directed to view this policy and our Child Safe Code of Conduct, listed on our website, via the Terms of Enrolment distributed annually.



Nicole Muir
CEO

Updated Date: September 2025

Acts and Regulations

ACT – Children and Young People Act 2008 and Working with Vulnerable People (Background Checking) Act 2011

NSW – Children’s Guardian Act 2019, Children and Young Persons (Care and Protection) Act 1998, Children and Young Persons (Care and Protection) (Child Employment) Regulation 2015, and Child Protection (Working with Children) Act 2012

QLD – Child Protection Act 1999, Child Employment Act 2006 and Working with Children (Risk Management and Screening) Act 2000

SA – Children and Young People (Safety) Act 2017 and Child Safety (Prohibited Persons) Act 2016

VIC – Children, Youth and Families Act 2005, Child Wellbeing and Safety Act 2005, Child Employment Act 2003 and Worker Screening Act 2020

WA – Children and Community Services Act 2004 and Working with Children (Criminal Record Checking) Act 2004

Appendix 1 – SA specific requirements

Working With Children Checks

All REDed staff members and contractors working with children and young people must hold a valid Working with Children Check (WWCC) issued by the Screening Unit of the Department of Human Services. A DCSI clearance can be held until it expires then a WWCC from DHS must be obtained.

Mandatory Reporting

In SA, under the Children and Young People (Safety) Act 2017, should a staff member suspect harm they are directed to call the Child Abuse Report Line (CARL) at the Department for Child Protection on 13 14 78. If a child is at immediate risk, please contact the SA Police on 000.