

STATEMENT OF COMMITMENT TO CHILD SAFETY

The AEC is committed to the safety and protection of the children and young people we serve.

The AEC has established a Child Safety Policy, which outlines the AEC's principles and processes for providing a safe environment for children and young people in all of our offices and business operations.

AEC staff come into contact with children and young people during the course of their work in a variety of ways, including through:

- a. community engagement and public relations activities
- b. at polling places during the conduct of electoral events
- c. public enquiries, including through social media
- d. provisional enrolment of young people
- e. young people coming into AEC offices
- f. international deployments
- g. AEC staff who are carers bringing their children into AEC offices
- h. most significantly, delivery of the AEC's education program, including school visits to our National Electoral Education Centre (NEEC) located at Old Parliament House, Canberra.

Staff understand the important and specific role they play in ensuring the safety and wellbeing of the children and young people using our services or taking part in programs provided by the AEC. Our Child Safety Policy outlines how all AEC employees have legal obligations to act ethically and responsibly towards children and young people at all times, including a legal obligation to report any real or suspected instances of grooming or abuse of a minor to police as soon as practicable. Staff at the NEEC have undertaken the annual training on the Commonwealth Child Safe Framework.

The AEC has undertaken risk assessments of our operations, and has control measures in place to ensure the AEC both operationalises our commitment to the safety and protection of the children and young people we serve, and meets our obligations under the Commonwealth Child Safe Framework.

Jeff Pope APM

Deputy Electoral Commissioner
Australian Electoral Commission

October 2022