



Policy 4.02 Child Protection

Introduction

Wanderers Football Club believes every child has a right to be protected from harm and is therefore committed to the safety and wellbeing of all children and young people. Wanderers Football Club will treat children and young people with respect and empathy and treat their best interests as paramount. Wanderers Football Club accepts that there is a community responsibility to ensure the safety and protection of children and undertakes to support children and caregivers in a collaborative community approach.

Policy Statement

Wanderers Football Club will ensure that all services/activities provided by the Club adhere to child protection principles as set out in the *Child Protection Act 1999*, and all other guiding legislation and regulation including the *UN Convention on the Rights of a Child*. Any child protection considerations not explicit in this policy will be captured within Wanderers Football Club Child and Youth Risk Management Strategy.

Principles

Wanderers Football Club will ensure that:

- Wanderers Football Club child related services/activities are focused on a child's developmental, emotional, health, intellectual and physical needs.
- A child should be able to know, explore and maintain their identity and values, including their gender, cultural, ethnic and religious identity and values.
- Children should be given an age appropriate explanation of any decision affecting them.
- A child who understands and can demonstrate connection of cause and effect has the right to express their views and wishes freely in all matters affecting them. Requests/decisions will be given due weight in accordance with their age and maturity.
- Wanderers Football Club will provide support that best meets the child's needs taking into account gender, cultural, religious, ability and other specific identifiers.
- Where relevant, Wanderers Football Club staff will receive regular training on child protection issues and on their obligations under the *Child Protection Act 1999* and other relevant legislation, including reporting of concerns or allegations of child abuse including child sexual abuse.
- Wanderers Football Club is committed to working collaboratively with other agencies and individuals in the community in the support and protection of children, young people and family members.
- The principles of due process are afforded to those who have been suspected or accused of abuse in line with all legal reporting obligation of suspected abuse.
- Wanderers Football Club will maintain and review the Child and Youth Risk Management Strategy that meets the minimum requirements of the Working with Children legislation.



Definitions

Who is a Child?

A child is an individual under 18 years.

What is Harm?

Harm is any detrimental effect of a significant nature on the child's physical, psychological or emotional wellbeing.

Due Process

To act fairly, and within legal bounds and to give each party the opportunity to adequately state their case.

Wellbeing

A good or satisfactory condition of existence; a state characterised by health, happiness, and prosperity.

Related Legislation or Standards / Departmental Documents

Child Protection Act 1999 (Qld)

Child Protection Reform Amendment Bill 2017 (Qld)

UN Convention on the Rights of a Child

Criminal Code (Child Sexual Offences Reform) and Other Legislation Amendment Act 2020.

Working with children

Related Policies and Documents

6.07 Criminal History Checks Policy

4.03 Prevention of Harm and Abuse

4.2.4 Child Youth Risk Management Strategy

6.7.1 Criminal History Checks Procedure