



# Safeguarding Statement

**GPH's safeguarding policy is about preventing harm, responding quickly when concerns arise, and continuously improving systems to keep people safe—while putting the needs of individuals at the centre of everything.**

## **What does safeguarding mean at GPH?**

Safeguarding is about protecting people from abuse, neglect, and exploitation. This applies to everyone who engages with GPH, especially those who may be vulnerable (such as children, young people, and vulnerable adults).

GPH has zero tolerance for harm and is committed to protecting people's safety, wellbeing, and human rights.

## **What are the core principles of GPH's approach to safeguarding?**

GPH manages safeguarding in a way that is:

- Survivor-centred – prioritising the needs, safety, and dignity of the person affected
- Preventative and proactive – working to prevent, detect, and respond to harm
- Risk-based – identifying and managing risks across services
- Lawful and compliant – aligned with relevant legislation and standards (e.g. Reportable Conduct Schemes, Child Safe Standards, Aged Care, NDIS)

**GPH is committed to the 10 National Principles for Child Safe Organisations.**



## **Who is responsible for safeguarding at GPH?**

Safeguarding is not just one role:

- All staff, volunteers, contractors, and partners share responsibility
- Leaders and managers have added responsibilities to monitor, support, and enforce safeguarding practices

## **How does GPH prevent harm?**

- GPH works to prevent safeguarding issues by:
- Assessing risks and maintaining a risk register
- Having clear policies, procedures, and controls
- Completing staff checks (credentialling)
- Providing training and raising awareness of responsibilities

## **How does GPH respond to concerns?**

- GPH has clear processes to report and manage safeguarding concerns:
- Concerns can be reported openly or confidentially
- A Safeguarding Manager oversees investigations and response
- All incidents are taken seriously and managed safely and appropriately
- External reporting is done where required by law

## **How does GPH ensure our approach to safeguarding remains current and for for purpose?**

GPH regularly reviews incidents, risks, and systems to:

- Learn from what has happened
- Strengthen prevention and response
- Improve overall safeguarding practice