



Uniting Church in Australia
SYNOD OF VICTORIA AND TASMANIA



**Keeping
Children
Safe**

Name of entity: Heathmont Uniting Church

This is a statement of our commitment to keeping children safe

We are committed to implementing the Keeping Children Safe Policy of the Uniting Church in Australia, Synod of Victoria.

All children who are involved in any of the Uniting Church's activities, services, events or programs have a right to feel and be safe.

We are committed to providing safe environments where children are cared for, respected, nurtured and sustained.

We have zero tolerance of all forms of child abuse and will do all in our power to safeguard children from abuse.

We are committed to creating and maintaining a child-safe culture to ensure the care, protection and safety of all children engaging with the Church in any of its entities.

Abuse thrives on secrecy. To prevent child abuse across the Church, we are committed to providing clear leadership and open and transparent governance to combat secrecy.

We clearly affirm the Church's commitment to upholding the law. This includes the requirement to report abuse to the appropriate authorities.

We commit to the following actions, as appropriate in our situation, to keep children safe:

- Promote strong leadership and governance and a culture of child safety
- Promote access, equity and diversity
- Promote appropriate behaviour amongst adults and children
- Recruit, train and supervise workers well
- Manage risk, promote safety and respond to concerns
- Promote child, family and community participation.

Adopted by Heathmont Uniting Church, Church Council on 4 May 2017.

For more information see: www.heathmont.unitingchurch.org.au

or the designated 'Keeping Children Safe' website:

<http://ucavictas.org.au/keepingchildrensafe/>