

Child Safety at HCF

Highlands Christian Fellowship (HCF) is a community of Christian households, committed to the public proclamation of the gospel and to meeting together as individuals and families to share the life of Christ with one another.

In this fellowship, the care and protection of children who belong to these households rests primarily with their parents. The Scriptures encourage children to come to Christ and to be established in Him within the context of believing families and under the accountability of parents. While parents hold primary responsibility and accountability for their children, HCF is committed to providing safe and supportive environments that promote the safety and wellbeing of all children participating in its programs. This commitment includes:

- a zero-tolerance approach to any form of child abuse or harm
- promoting a child-safe culture and a Code of Conduct for interactions with and among children
- implementing practices and risk management strategies that prioritise the safety of children
- ensuring that ministers and other persons who work with children hold valid **New South Wales (NSW) Working with Children Checks**
- supporting workers through child safety training, including their reporting obligations and procedures

We encourage children, parents and members of the church community to raise any concerns about child safety. Children are encouraged to speak with a trusted adult if they ever feel unsafe or uncomfortable.

If you would like more information about HCF's commitment and approach to child safety, please contact the church office on (02) 4861 5820 or admin@hcf.org.au.