

# St Peters Dental Clinic

## Child Safe Environment Code of Conduct

St Peters Dental Clinic regards the welfare and safety of all patients under our care as a primary consideration.

To create and maintain a Child-Safe working environment, as well as the professional obligations incumbent upon practitioners registered with the Dental Board of Australia and professional responsibilities recommended by the Australian Dental Association, all staff of this practice are responsible for promoting the safety and well-being of children and young people.

Staff will:

- ensure the safety and welfare of the child or young person is paramount
- treat all children and young people with dignity, equality and respect
- follow the child safe policy always
- listen and respond appropriately to the views and concerns of children and young people within the practice
- take all reasonable steps to ensure the safety and protection of children and young people
- to the extent possible, ensure that a suitable adult is present when consulting with a child or young person
- ensure children and young people understand their rights
- explain to the child in age/developmentally-appropriate language what they can expect during consultations
- respond quickly, fairly and transparently to any serious complaints made by a child, young person or their parent/guardian
- Notify the Child Abuse Report Line on 13 14 78 as soon as practicable if they have a suspicion that a child or young person is or may be at risk of harm.
- Notify the Police if they have a reasonable belief that a child is being sexually abused by any person
- Hold a current Working With Children Check (WWCC).

Staff will not:

- take part in any unnecessary physical contact with a child or young person
- discriminate against any child or young person because of age, sex, cultural background, religion, vulnerability or sexuality.

Staff have been advised of the consequences of breaching the Code as outlined in their contracts of employment and via this policy.