Child Safety & Cultural Safety Statement

Speech Pathology Tasmania is committed to the safety and wellbeing of our clients. All clients, including children and young people have a right to be safe and to feel safe while receiving services from Speech Pathology Tasmania. We are committed to acting in the best interests of the children and young people in our care.

At Speech Pathology Tasmania children and young people are listened to, respected, and their rights observed. Our practices are informed by the value of Freedom, which is motivated by choice and respect. Children and young people who receive services from Speech Pathology Tasmania can actively participate in decisions that affect them.

Speech Pathology Tasmania is a child-safe organisation, in accordance with Tasmania's Child and Youth Safe Standards and Universal Principle for Aboriginal Cultural Safety.

Speech Pathology Tasmania will not tolerate behaviour that is harmful to children, other families receiving services from SPT, or team members. This includes violence, aggression, harassment and otherwise abusive behaviour.

The responsibility for the safety and wellbeing of young clients is embedded within our organisation's culture, including its governance, policies and practices. This includes:

- Championing and modelling a child-safe culture at all levels of our organisation
- Training for team members on child safety and cultural awareness
- Policies and practices are in place and regularly reviewed regarding:
    - codes of conduct
    - complaints management
    - harassment
    - health and safety
    - privacy and confidentiality

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At Speech Pathology Tasmania we respect all people within our society and value diversity in thinking, skills and expression. We respect the diverse backgrounds and needs of all our clients and families. We strive to provide a culturally safe environment.

Speech Pathology Tasmania is dedicated to ensuring that our services and facilities are culturally safe spaces for everyone, including Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.

We are committed to providing an environment and relationships where Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children and young people feel safe to be themselves, their Aboriginality is respected and their sense of self and identity is nurtured and encouraged.

We are committed to educating ourselves about the history and culture of the Palawa community and the ongoing impacts of colonisation, and thoughtfully integrating relevant aspects into our practices. This is an ongoing endeavour.