

# Safeguarding statement for Young People

When you are participating in Starlight's programs we believe you should:

- Feel comfortable and safe.
- Be safe.
- Be able to contact your parents or others if you feel unsafe, uncomfortable or distressed at any time.
- Understand the guidelines and rules of our programs and be given the chance to adjust your behaviour if needed.
- NOT be subject to disciplinary action involving physical punishment, or any form of treatment that could reasonably be considered degrading, cruel, frightening or humiliating; and
- Be able to make suggestions and give feedback on any activity, event or program that you have been involved in.

**At Starlight we are serious about doing everything we can to keep young people safe and make sure our programs are fun and worthwhile. To do this we have developed a Code of Conduct which every team member must follow. It includes things like:**

- Starlight team members will do their best to make sure you are protected from harm.
- Starlight team members are easy to recognise as they will always wear their uniform or have an ID badge on.
- We will be involved and available while our programs are delivered.
- We will work as a team.
- We will be focused on our role and making sure you are having a fun, creative and enjoyable time when you are participating in Starlight's program.
- Apart from the contact we have with you when you are participating in a program activity, we won't be getting in touch. Starlight team members are not allowed to friend you on Facebook or other social media platforms and cannot call or text you unless it is directly related to participating in a Starlight program.
- If you need some guidance about how to best participate in our programs we will guide you in a way that is fair, respectful and appropriate to your age and background; and
- If we are concerned about your safety we will do something about it by following our Code of Conduct reporting procedures.



**You can help us to deliver our programs in a safe and fun way by:**

- Letting a team member or parent know if you are unhappy with the way you are being treated or you don't feel safe;
- Being welcoming to everyone and show care and consideration to other participants and the Starlight team;
- Following the rules of any activities you are participating in;
- Listen to others and respect their opinions.

If you would like more information about our commitment to Safeguarding Children and Young People you can find it on our website at [www.starlight.org.au](http://www.starlight.org.au).

