Your Child's Rights & Safety at the Y

At the Y, your child's safety comes first - both online and offline.

If your child ever feels worried, they can speak to a Y staff member - like their program leader or youth worker. Alternatively, use the QR code or visit https://www.ymcawa.org.au or ymcawa.org.au/who-we-are/safeguarding-children to raise a concern. They can remain anonymous if they choose.

What we WILL do

Keep your child safe

Every Y program, activity and space - online and offline - is designed to be safe, respectful and age-appropriate, so your child can participate with confidence.

Use official and safe platforms

We'll only communicate with your child through approved Y platforms and devices, and only about Y programs they're actively involved in.

Protect their information

We follow Australian laws, privacy rules, and the eSafety Commissioner's guidelines to protect your child's personal data. We'll only share it if legally required - for example, if someone's safety is at risk or if it's necessary for their participation in the program.

Make it easy for them to speak up

We'll give you and your child simple, anonymous and culturally respectful ways to raise concerns - whether through QR codes, online forms or trusted Y staff.

Promote inclusion and belonging

We'll actively create spaces where every person feels safe, included and respected - whoever they are.

Stay connected with you

We'll always ask for your permission before engaging with your child, and we'll include you in any messages, calls or chats so you're in the loop.

Respect their image and identity

We'll always ask for consent before taking or sharing your child's photo, video or creative work, and we'll clearly explain how it will be used.

Be open and transparent

If a session is being recorded, information saved, or feedback collected, we'll explain what's happening and why, so there are no surprises.

Respond and keep you informed

If a concern is raised, we'll act quickly, take it seriously, and make sure both you and your child know what's happening and what steps are being taken.

Value their voice

We'll listen to what your child has to say, treat their perspective with respect, and act on it when needed.

What we will NEVER do

- Use personal devices, accounts or social media to message your child.
- Share unsafe, disrespectful, or inappropriate content.
- Encourage your child to keep secrets or withhold information from you.
- Ignore, delay or dismiss a concern.
- Exclude or treat anyone unfairly because of identity, culture, language, ability or belief.

Your Rights. Your Safety. Your Y.

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the Y