



# Our commitment to child safety

Earthwatch Australia is committed to the safety, wellbeing, empowerment and best interests of children and young people, who continue to be vital and active participants in our programs.

We adhere to this commitment through the following:

- Upholding the rights of children and young people who engage with Earthwatch Australia. This includes ensuring that they feel safe, protected, empowered and heard on matters relevant to their safety.
- Full commitment of the Earthwatch Board, Executive Team, staff and representatives to uphold and continually promote the [National Principles for Child Safe Organisations](#).
- Provision of a safe environment which is considerate of, and accommodating to, the needs of children and young people.
- Actively promoting diversity, acceptance and empowerment of all children and young people. This includes commitment to promoting [cultural safety](#), participation and the empowerment of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children.
- Preventing child abuse and neglect through the early identification of potential harms and taking immediate, comprehensive action to reduce and remove any identified risks.
- Zero tolerance of child abuse and neglect. Any allegations or safety concerns will be treated very seriously and in accordance with the Earthwatch Child Safeguarding and Wellbeing Policy, Code of Conduct and Complaints Handling Policy.
- Regular training and education of Earthwatch staff and volunteers around maintaining a Child Safe organisation and identifying and addressing risks of child abuse and neglect.
- Robust recruitment and procurement practices which ensure new staff, volunteers and representatives are appropriately screened to work with children and inducted into the Earthwatch Child Safeguarding and Wellbeing framework.

Earthwatch Australia requires all staff to uphold these commitments at all times. Child safeguarding policies and procedures support our staff and volunteers to continually meet these standards.

For any queries or concerns relating to this pledge, please contact us [here](#).