

Mallee Track commitment to Child Safety

Mallee Track Health and Community Service is committed to being a child safe organisation and have developed a logo to symbolise it. But what does this mean?

MTHCS Director of Community Service Lyndal Munro said, "When you see this logo, it symbolises our commitment to your child's safety. We have approved staff to child ratios, no social media policy, we follow the national model code on use of photos and images of children. And we have updated several policies and procedures to strengthen our work in this space even more."

We have updated our Code of Conduct to include how we behave around children.Our Child Safe procedure has been updated to demonstrate our commitment to all the Child Safe standards and encompass all the various legislative requirements.

Our child protection procedure, protecting children from sexual abuse and child safe procedures have all been updated. They include information on what to look for and what to do if you are concerned or if a child discloses information to you.

MTHCS is required under the reportable conduct scheme to share information with relevant regulators and agencies on allegations of child sexual abuse even when the information is unsubstantiated.

In early years we have implemented the National Model Code on the use of photos and images of children.

- We only use service-issued devices
- We only carry or use personal devices for authorised essential purposes such as emergencies, health and family needs
- We have strict controls for storage and retention of images of children

"We are expecting more changes to be implemented as new legislation is passed at a state and commonwealth level that aims to further strengthen child safety across all areas.

"These changes will include: a new regulator with strengthened rules around how we deliver early years services, national early years childhood worker register alongside a strengthened working with children's check system." shared Kyra Nathan MTHCS Early Years Manager.

Call to arms

We can have all these written documents in place but what we really need is a culture of speaking up, if you see or hear something that is not safe for children, we need to report that in line with our procedures.

If you see something say something – we can all speak up for safety!



Pictured: New MTHCS Child Safe logo



Bailee Mott graduates as an Early Years Educator

"Bailee Mott has just graduated with a Bachelor of Early Childhood Teaching, and we couldn't be prouder of her achievements! Bailee studied with Victoria University in the fast-tracked Bachelor course, where she gained her degree whilst also working full-time at the Sea Lake ELC." said Kyra Nathan, MTHCS Early Years Manager.

Let's hear from Bailee:

"I studied my Bachelor of Early Childhood Teaching through Victoria University, my course was a fast-tracked course over 2 years, where I studied in VU's unique block model completing 1 unit every 4 weeks, 2 online classes each week, 3 assessments in each unit, and 6 in centre placements and 1 community placement. I completed 16 units all up.

I enjoy working with children because their curiosity, honesty, and energy make every day meaningful and full of growth — for them and for me.

Working for Mallee Track is incredibly rewarding, as the company fosters a strong sense of community, values its team, and is deeply committed to making a positive impact in rural and regional areas, specifically in the Early Years sector. Without Mallee Track I probably wouldn't have been able to complete my studies, as my colleagues pushed me to succeed.

Now that I have completed my studies and graduated, I am beginning to focus on moving from my provisional teaching registration to my full teaching registration. I feel proud and accomplished to have completed my studies and graduated, knowing that all the hard work and dedication have prepared me for a meaningful and rewarding career. I am proud to say that I have completed this course and extremely excited to finally have graduated into a field that I love and will continue to love."

Mallee Track Health and Community Service is committed to furthering education in its workforce and in doing so improving our care for the Mallee community.



Bailee Mott pictured with her Bachelor of Early Childhood Teaching

