FBA Statement of Commitment to Child Safety (VIC)

(Aligned with FBA Child Safety Code of Conduct 2026)

French Bilingual Association Inc. (FBA) is committed to the safety, wellbeing and empowerment of all children and young people.

We have **zero tolerance for child abuse, harm and discrimination**. We are dedicated to creating and maintaining a **safe, inclusive, nurturing and empowering environment** where children feel respected, valued and heard.

Our Commitment

FBA recognises its responsibility to ensure that all children:

- feel **safe, supported and empowered** when engaging with our programs and activities
- are treated with **respect, dignity, fairness and honesty**
- have their **voices heard and valued**, particularly in matters affecting them
- are supported to **express their identity, culture and beliefs**, including Aboriginal children and children from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds
- are able to **thrive in their learning, development and wellbeing**

Child Safety Standards and Responsibilities

FBA is committed to complying with:

- the **Victorian Child Safe Standards (2022)**
- the **Reportable Conduct Scheme**
- all relevant **child protection laws and mandatory reporting obligations**

We take all reasonable steps to **prevent, identify and respond to risks of child abuse or harm**.

Safe Environment and Practices

We are committed to:

- maintaining **child-safe physical and online environments**
- ensuring **transparent and open interactions** between adults and children
- minimising situations where adults are alone with children
- conducting **risk assessments and regular reviews** of our practices
- embedding child safety across our **policies, procedures and organisational culture**

Staff, Volunteers and Representatives

All FBA committee members, staff, contractors and volunteers:

- must comply with the **FBA Child Safety Code of Conduct**
- are required to act as **positive role models**
- must **promote children's safety and wellbeing at all times**
- are subject to **rigorous recruitment, screening and Working with Children Checks**
- receive **ongoing training and professional development** in child safety

Listening to Children and Families

FBA values:

- **children's voices, participation and agency**
- open and respectful **communication with families and the community**
- feedback to support **continuous improvement in child-safe practices**

Children are supported to understand their **right to feel safe** and are encouraged to raise concerns about their own safety or the safety of others.

Responding to Concerns and Allegations

FBA is committed to:

- taking **all concerns, disclosures and allegations seriously**
- responding **promptly, consistently and in line with legal obligations**
- reporting concerns to the **nominated Child Safety Person(s)** and relevant authorities
- ensuring **children are safe as a priority** in any situation

Diversity and Inclusion

We actively promote the **cultural safety, participation and inclusion** of all children, including:

- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children
- children from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds
- children with disability
- children unable to live at home
- children of all genders and identities, including LGBTIQA+ children

Continuous Improvement

Child safety is embedded in **every aspect of FBA's operations**. We regularly review and improve our policies, procedures and practices to ensure they remain effective and aligned with best practice.

FRENCH
BILINGUAL
ASSOCIATION

Visibility and Accessibility

This Statement of Commitment to Child Safety is:

- publicly available on our **website**
- displayed at our **program locations**
- accessible to **families, children, staff and the community**

By signing this document, I acknowledge that I have read, understood, and agree to uphold the FBA Statement of Commitment to Child Safety and the FBA Child Safety Code of Conduct, and that I will act in accordance with these at all times.

Name of organisation			
Name of employee		Position	
Employee signature		Date	