

# Media release

---



3 September 2024

## Goodstart offers free Protective Strategies Kit: *Feel Safe, Be Safe* to ECEC sector

To mark National Child Protection Week, Goodstart Early Learning, the largest ECEC provider in Australia, is sharing its award-winning protective strategies kit, *Feel Safe, Be Safe* protective strategies with the ECEC sector.

This initiative highlights Goodstart's commitment to being a Child Safe organisation and to preventing, detecting and addressing child abuse, neglect and harm.

The protective strategies kit helps educators and teachers empower children with the understanding that they have a right to be safe and feel safe all the time and can talk to a trusted adult about anything.

Goodstart's National Lead for Safeguarding Children, Sara Evans said when age-appropriate strategies (sometimes also called protective behaviours) were taught to young children, it equipped them with the skills to recognise and respond to potentially unsafe situations (including online), understand their bodies, emotions and early warning signs, set boundaries and persist in seeking help from trusted adults when needed.

"When we teach children protective strategies, we help to safeguard them from harm.

"Teaching children protective strategies is not new but Goodstart's *Feel Safe, Be Safe* Protective Strategies Kit protective strategies are woven into everyday teaching and learning, routines, transitions, play experiences and relationships," she said.

"Importantly, our *Feel Safe, Be Safe* Protective Strategies Kit is for children aged birth to five years and also includes resources and strategies that families can use at home."

The Protective Strategies Kit draws on national and international contemporary best practice and is underpinned by the Early Years Learning Framework (Version 2) and the National Principles for Child Safe Organisations and state-based Child Safe Standards.

For find out more, or download *Feel Safe, Be Safe*, see here:

<https://www.goodstart.org.au/safeguarding-children/feel-safe-be-safe-protective-strategies>



**For more information**

Rachel Espiner 0429553103 or [media@goodstart.org.au](mailto:media@goodstart.org.au).

**Notes for editors:** Goodstart Early Learning is Australia's largest not for profit early learning provider with 654 centres nationwide committed to improving the lives of Australia's children and their families. Website: [goodstart.org.au](http://goodstart.org.au).

**Acknowledgement of country:** Goodstart acknowledges all Traditional Custodians and recognises First Nations peoples continued cultural and spiritual connection to the land, sky and waterways. We pay our respects to Elders past, present and emerging.