



Feedback on the NSW Ombudsman draft statement of commitment to children's rights

Revised statement

The NSW Ombudsman's office values childhood and recognises that children are an important part of our community.

Children have the right to be supported and cared for by those around them. We are dedicated to protecting the legal and human rights of children and ensuring the safety, welfare, and wellbeing of children in everything we do.

Our services aim to be welcoming, accessible, and safe for all children and families.

We believe every child deserves protection, a chance to participate, and access to services that serve their best interests. We work to remove barriers and adapt our services to fit the individual needs of children, promoting inclusive practices that empower both children and their families.

By advocating for these rights, we aim to build a community where every child is heard, valued, and given the chance to thrive.

We are committed to ensuring that our actions help children understand and claim their rights, while supporting their dignity, safety, and wellbeing.

Feedback form questions

1. **How important is the NSW Ombudsman's commitment to children's rights?**

Very Important

2. **How would you rate our Draft statement on commitment to children's rights?**

Good

3. **What suggestions do you have to improve our draft statement of commitment to children's rights?**

The language should be strengths based, child centred and in plain-English.



It is important that the commitment can be read and understood by children, young people and diverse communities such as people with a disability or culturally and linguistically diverse communities.

4. How would you rate the principles in section 4 of our draft statement of commitment to children's rights?

Good

5. What suggestions do you have to improve these principles in section 4?

Overall, the commitment including the principles need to be strengths based, child centred and in plain English.

Specifically:

- Principle 1 should be revised to be strengths based e.g. change the wording of the statement to recognise the value add of diversity.
- Principle 2 should be simplified and centre the child in the statement. An example of this might be "The interest of the child and consideration for the impact on children is considered at all times."
- Reduce the use of the phrasing "Pay attention" and consider more meaningful wording such as "Recognise".