

### **Child Protection and Family Violence Intervention**

The Children's Act 2014 was passed by Parliament in June 2014 and forms a key part of New Zealand's framework to protect vulnerable children and enhance their wellbeing/whaiora. The Act strengthens the child protection system and supports early identification and response to children at risk of harm.

St Albans Medical Centre is committed to safeguarding children and has adopted a Child Protection Policy that acknowledges the critical and sensitive role staff play in identifying and responding to suspected child abuse and/or neglect. This includes the early recognition of children who may be at risk, as well as adults who may pose a risk of harming children.

This policy is underpinned by the legal framework that protects children's rights and is guided by respect for parents, whānau, the wider community, and the diverse cultural values of the people we serve.

This policy, together with the Recognition & Response to Intimate Partner Violence policy, will assist St Albans Medical Centre staff to recognise and appropriately manage suspected or disclosed cases of family violence.