

Applying Standard 9 to support LGBTIQ+ children and young people

Implementation of the Standards is regularly reviewed and improved



Organisations review and improve their child safe practices to ensure they continue to promote the rights, safety, and wellbeing of children and young people.

How to use this factsheet

This factsheet can be used alongside Focus Area 4 of the Child Safe Standards Self-Assessment Tool, which supports organisations to reflect on how they monitor, review, and improve their child safe practices in a way that contributes to child rights, safety, and wellbeing. This factsheet provides additional context for how organisations can apply Standard 9 in ways that recognise and support the rights, safety, and wellbeing of LGBTIQ+ children and young people.

Applying Standard 9 for inclusive organisations

Creating child safe organisations is an ongoing process. Regular review and reflection can help organisations identify ways to strengthen their child safe practices and respond to the changing needs of children and young people.

For LGBTIQ+ children and young people, this may involve considering whether policies, environments and organisational practices continue to support inclusion and safety.

“I appreciate orgs that are willing to learn and change”
(Young person, AGA consultation, 2026)



Why this matters

When organisations regularly review and improve their child safe practices, LGBTIQ+ children and young people are more likely to experience environments that respond to their needs and experiences. Listening to feedback from children and young people can help organisations identify barriers to safety and inclusion, and strengthen practices that promote wellbeing. Continuous improvement also helps organisations respond to new information, evolving community expectations, and emerging risks.

Impact on LGBTIQ+ children and young people

If organisations do not regularly review and improve their child safe practices, LGBTIQ+ children and young people may feel:

- That their feedback or experiences are not valued
- That organisational practices do not reflect their needs
- Unsure whether concerns will lead to meaningful change
- Less confident that the organisation prioritises their safety.

Tangible actions for organisations

Organisations can support continuous improvement by:

- **Regularly reviewing policies, procedures, and practices to ensure they continue to support diverse identities and experiences.** An example may include considering whether policies continue to support the safety and inclusion of LGBTIQ+ children and young people.
- **Seeking feedback from children and young people about their experiences of safety and inclusion.** For example, through surveys, consultations, or informal discussions.
- **Reviewing incidents, concerns, or feedback to identify opportunities for improvement.** This can help organisations identify patterns or areas where improvements may be needed.
- **Engaging with communities and organisations with relevant expertise.** For example, organisations that support LGBTIQ+ children and young people.
- **Updating training and guidance for staff and volunteers in response to emerging knowledge and community needs.**



Organisations may wish to consider:

- How do we regularly review our child safe practices?
- How do we gather feedback from children and young people about safety and inclusion?
- How do we ensure feedback leads to meaningful improvements?
- How do we communicate changes we have made to children and young people so they can see how their feedback was used to improve service delivery?
- How do we stay informed about emerging issues affecting LGBTIQ+ children and young people?

“... Accessibility & them proving they are safe”

(Young person, AGA consultation, 2026)



Remember:

Reviewing how safe and included children and young people feel helps ensure your organisation is not leaving anyone behind. This work is most effective when it is regular, embedded into practice, and supported by leadership.

Find out more

Click here to learn more about the **Child Safe Standards**.
For information, education, and training visit **genderrights.org.au**

