



Child Safe Standards

What staff and volunteers need to know!

A Child Safe Organisation is one where children and young people **feel safe and are safe.**

Your role in enhancing the safety of children and young people

As a staff member or volunteer, you play a crucial role in protecting and promoting the rights, safety, and wellbeing of children and young people. By demonstrating positive attitudes and behaviours, you help build a child safe culture within your organisation.

Understanding the Child Safe Standards

There are 10 interrelated Child Safe Standards designed to help you create a safe environment for children and young people. It is important to know what these Standards are and how your organisation is implementing them.

Working together

Creating a child safe organisation is a **collective effort**. Everyone, regardless of their role, can contribute ideas for improvement. Discuss your ideas about implementation with your supervisor, team leader, or manager, including ways to better support children and young people to exercise their rights and participate in service design and delivery within your organisation.

Flexible implementation

Each organisation is unique, and your organisation's approach to implementing the Standards should be adapted based on specific risks and priorities. If you work with multiple organisations, familiarise yourself with each organisation's approach to implementing the Standards.

Talk to children and young people about what feeling safe means to them.

Show them that their thoughts and feelings about safety matter.



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What Staff and Volunteers can do!



Practical steps that support child safe practices:

- **Attend training:** Participate in child safe training to learn how to identify risks and opportunities to better support children and young people.
- **Seek feedback:** Ask children and young people for their input on how services can be improved and share this feedback with your leaders.
- **Cultural awareness:** Undertake cultural awareness training and apply your learning to make services safer for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children and young people, and their families/communities.
- **Promote inclusion:** Show zero tolerance for discrimination and undertake training to understand the diverse needs of children and young people.
- **Understand policies:** Read and understand your organisation's policies, such as the **Child Safe Policy** and **Code of Conduct** and be aware of the risk management plan.
- **Communicate:** Talk to other staff about how to improve support for children and young people.
- **Listen and care:** Pay attention to concerns raised by children and young people and take them seriously.
- **Raise concerns:** Immediately report any concerns to your leadership team and keep children and young people informed about how issues are being addressed.

By following these steps, you help support your organisation to meet its commitments under the ACT Child Safe Standards Scheme and, in doing so, create a safer environment for children and young people.



Want more information?
Check out our website.

