

The Child and Youth Safe Standards

The Universal Principle: Applies across all 10 Child and Youth Safe Standards.

This means: Organisations must provide an environment that ensures the right to Cultural Safety of Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander children is respected.



Standard 1: Child safety and wellbeing is embedded in organisational leadership, governance and culture.

This means: All people in the organisation care about children and young people's safety and wellbeing above everything else, and make sure they act that way and lead others to act that way.



Standard 2: Children and young people are informed about their rights, participate in decisions affecting them and are taken seriously.

This means: Children and young people are told about their human rights, have a say in decisions and are taken seriously.



Standard 3: Families and communities are informed and involved in promoting child safety and wellbeing.

This means: Families, carers, and communities know about and are involved in the organisation's child safety and wellbeing activities.



Standard 4: Equity is upheld and diverse needs respected in policy and practice.

This means: The rights of every child and young person are being met, and children and young people are treated with dignity, respect and fairness.



Standard 5: People working with children and young people are suitable and supported to reflect child safety and wellbeing values in practice.

This means: People working with children and young people are safe to work with them, and are respectful of them. They are taught how to keep children safe and well.



Standard 6: Processes to respond to complaints and concerns are child focused.

This means: Children, young people, families, carers, staff and volunteers are listened to and can share problems and concerns.



Standard 7: Staff and volunteers are equipped with the knowledge, skills and awareness to keep children and young people safe through ongoing education and training.

This means: Staff and volunteers keep learning all the time so they know how to keep children and young people safe and well.



Standard 8: Physical and online environments promote safety and wellbeing while minimising the opportunity for children and young people to be harmed.

This means: Children and young people are safe in online and physical spaces.



Standard 9: Implementation of the Child and Youth Safe Standards is regularly reviewed and improved.

This means: The organisation keeps reviewing and improving its child safety and wellbeing practices.



Standard 10: Policies and procedures document how the organisation is safe for children and young people.

This means: The organisation writes down how it keeps children and young people safe and well, and makes sure that everyone can see these documents.

Some of these definitions have been rephrased for simplicity. For the original versions, see Schedule 1 of the *Child and Youth Safe Organisations Act 2023*.



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