

NATIONAL CHILD SAFE PRINCIPLES

TASMANIA



The National Principles for Child Safe Organisations are a set of high-level principles that provide a national approach to creating child-safe cultures within organisations, while Child Safe Standards are the specific, state-level implementations of those principles, ensuring consistency across Australia.

The Royal Commission into Institutional Child Sexual Abuse recommended 10 standards for better protection children from harm and abuse. The National Principles reflect these standards and have a broader scope to protect children and young people from all forms of abuse.

In February 2019, the National Principles were endorsed by every state and territory through the Council of Australian Governments (COAG). Each State and Territory holds the responsibility to implement the Principles in their jurisdiction through their Child Safe Standards.

In Tasmania, the Child Safe Standards have been renamed the Child and Youth Safe Standards and been introduced into legislation. They form part of the Child and Youth Safe Organisations Framework, the Tasmanian Government's initiative to create and maintain safe environments for children and young people.

Is my organisation required to implement the Child Safe Standards?

Under the law, religious community services or religious organisations that carry out activities or services through which adults have contact with children will have to comply with the Child and Youth Safe Standards

What are the Child and Youth Safe Standards?

- Child safety and wellbeing is embedded in organisational leadership, governance and culture
- Children and young people are informed about their rights, participate in decisions affecting them and are taken seriously.
- Families and communities are informed and involved in promoting child safety and wellbeing.
- Equity is upheld and diverse needs respected in policy and practice.
- People working with children and young people are suitable and supported to reflect child safety and wellbeing values in practice.
- Processes to respond to complaints and concerns are child focused.
- Staff and volunteers are equipped with the knowledge, skills and awareness to keep children and young people safe through ongoing education and training.
- Physical and online environments promote safety and wellbeing while minimising the opportunity for children and young people to be harmed.
- Implementation of the Child and Youth Safe Standards is regularly reviewed and improved.
- Policies and procedures document how the organisation is safe for children and young people.

The Child and Youth Safe Standards are designed to ensure child safety is prioritised across all aspects of an organisation from leadership and culture to the environment to documentation. Continuous quality improvement has been built into the standards to ensure that organisations must review and enhance their approach to child safety.

How can my organisation implement the Child and Youth Safe Standards?

The Tasmanian Government has developed resources to help support organisations to implement the Child and Youth Safe Standards. Further information can be found [here](#).