

## Child Safe Standards Fact Sheet

The Australian Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse recommended 10 child safe standards, drawing on its findings and extensive research and consultation about what makes institutions child safe. The standards work together to emphasise the importance of adopting multiple strategies to address child safety and avoiding an over-reliance on one strategy.

Since the Royal Commission recommended the Standards, the Federal Government has adopted the **National Principles of a Child Safe Organisation**, the Australian Catholic Safeguarding Ltd finalised 10 **National Catholic Safeguarding Standards** (NCSS) and the NSW Government have released mandatory **Child Safe Standards 2020**.

An overview of all Standards is as follows:

National Principles of a Child Safe Organisation	National Catholic Safeguarding Standards	NSW Child Safe Standards
<b>Committed leadership, governance and culture</b>		
1. Child safety and wellbeing is embedded in organisational leadership, governance and culture.	1. The safeguarding of children and adults is embedded in the entity's leadership, governance and culture	1. Child safety is embedded in institutional leadership, governance and culture
<b>Children are safe, informed and participate</b>		
2. Children and young people are informed about their rights, participate in decisions affecting them and are taken seriously.	2. Children and adults are informed about their rights, participate in decisions affecting them and are taken seriously	2. Children participate in decision affecting them and are taken seriously
<b>Partnering with families, carers and communities</b>		
3. Families and communities are informed and involved in promoting child safety and wellbeing.	3. Families, carers and communities are informed and involved in promoting the safeguarding of children and adults	3. Families and communities are informed and involved
<b>Equity is promoted and diversity is respected</b>		
4. Equity is upheld and diverse needs respected in policy and practice.	4. Equity is upheld and diverse needs respected in policy and practice	4. Equity is upheld, and diverse needs are taken in to account
<b>Robust human resource management</b>		
5. People working with children and young people are suitable and supported to reflect child safety and wellbeing values in practice.	5. People working with children and adults are suitable and supported to reflect safeguarding values in practice	5. People working with children are suitable and supported

<b>Effective complaints management</b>		
6. Processes for complaints and concerns are child focused.	6. Processes for raising concerns and complaints are responsive, understood, accessible and used by children, adults, families, carers, communities, and personnel	6. Processes to respond to complaints of child sexual abuse are child focused
<b>Ongoing education and training</b>		
7. Staff and volunteers are equipped with the knowledge, skills and awareness to keep children and young people safe through ongoing education and training.	7. Personnel are equipped with knowledge, skills and awareness to keep children and adults safe through information, ongoing education and training	7. Staff are equipped with the knowledge, skills and awareness to keep children safe through continual education and training
<b>Safe physical and online environment</b>		
8. Physical and online environments promote safety and wellbeing while minimising the opportunity for children and young people to be harmed.	8. Physical and online environments promote safety and contain appropriate safeguards to minimise the opportunity for children and adults to be harmed.	8. Physical and online environments minimise the opportunity for abuse to occur
<b>Continuous improvement</b>		
9. Implementation of the national child safe principles is regularly reviewed and improved.	9. Entities regularly review and improve implementation of their systems for keeping children and adults safe	9. Implementation of the Child Safe Standards is continuously reviewed and improved
<b>Policies and procedures support child safety</b>		
10. Policies and procedures document how the organisation is safe for children and young people.	10. Policies and procedures document how the entity is safe for children and adults	10. Policies and procedures document how the institutions is child safe

### **More information**

For further information on the National Principles of Child Safe Organisation you can visit the National Office for Child Safety website [childsafety.pmc.gov.au](https://childsafety.pmc.gov.au)

For more information on the National Catholic Safeguarding Standards, you can visit the Catholic Professional Standards Ltd website at [www.acsltd.org.au](http://www.acsltd.org.au)

For more information on the NSW Child Safe Standards you can visit the Office of the Children's Guardian website at <https://ocg.nsw.gov.au/child-safe-scheme>

If you have specific questions about the Standards and Principles, you can email the Safeguarding Office (CSBB) at [safeguarding@dbb.catholic.edu.au](mailto:safeguarding@dbb.catholic.edu.au)