



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
Committed leadership, governance and culture		
1. Child safety and wellbeing is embedded in organisational leadership, governance and culture.	Standard 1 – Child safeguarding is embedded in the entity’s leadership, governance and culture	1. Child safety is embedded in institutional leadership, governance and culture
Children are safe, informed and participate		
2. Children and young people are informed about their rights, participate in decisions affecting them and are taken seriously.	Standard 2 – Children 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
Partnering with families, carers and communities		
3. Families and communities are informed and involved in promoting child safety and wellbeing.	Standard 3 – Families, carers and communities are informed and involved in promoting child safeguarding	3. Families and communities are informed and involved
Equity is promoted and diversity is respected		
4. Equity is upheld and diverse needs respected in policy and practice.	Standard 4 – Equity is upheld and diverse needs respected in policy and practice	4. Equity is upheld, and diverse needs are taken in to account
Robust human resource management		

National Principles of a Child Safe Organisation	National Catholic Safeguarding Standards	NSW Child Safe Standards
5. People working with children and young people are suitable and supported to reflect child safety and wellbeing values in practice.	Standard 5 – People working with children are suitable and supported to reflect child safeguarding values in practice	5. People working with children are suitable and supported
Effective complaints management		
6. Processes for complaints and concerns are child focused.	Standard 6 – Processes for raising concerns and complaints are responsive, understood, accessible and used by children, families, carers, communities and personnel	6. Processes to respond to complaints of child sexual abuse are child focused
Ongoing education and training		
7. Staff and volunteers are equipped with the knowledge, skills and awareness to keep children and young people safe through ongoing education and training.	Standard 7 – Personnel are equipped with knowledge, skills and awareness to keep children 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
Safe physical and online environment		
8. Physical and online environments promote safety and wellbeing while minimising the opportunity for children and young people to be harmed.	Standard 8 – Physical and online environments promote safety and contain appropriate safeguarding to minimise the opportunity for children to be harmed	8. Physical and online environments minimise the opportunity for abuse to occur
Continuous improvement		
9. Implementation of the national child safe principles is regularly reviewed and improved.	Standard 9 – Entities regularly review and improve implementation of their systems for keeping children safe	9. Implementation of the Child Safe Standards is continuously reviewed and improved
Policies and procedures support child safety		
10. Policies and procedures document how the organisation is safe for children and young people.	Standard 10 – Policies and procedures documents how the entity is safe for children	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 at www.pmc.gov.au

For more information on the National Catholic Safeguarding Standards you can visit the Catholic Professional Standards Ltd website at www.cpsltd.org.au

For more information on the NSW Child Safe Standards you can visit the Office of the Children’s Guardian website at www.kidsguardian.nsw.gov.au

If you have specific questions about the Standards and Principles, you can email the Office for Safeguarding (CSBB) at csocp@dbb.org.au