

National Principles for Child Safe Organisations

The Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse (Royal Commission) recommended child safe standards to make organisations across the country safe for children. The National Principles for Child Safe Organisations (National Principles) give effect to all Royal Commission recommendations related to child safe standards.¹ As of February 2019, the National Principles have been endorsed by members of the Council of Australian Governments.²

National Principles for Child Safe Organisations:

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

¹ Australian Human Rights Commission, *National Principles for Child Safe Organisations*, pp 3-4. Available at: https://childsafesite.humanrights.gov.au/sites/default/files/2019-02/National_Principles_for_Child_Safe_Organisations2019.pdf

² Australian Government, Department of Prime Minister and Cabinet, The National Office for Child Safety, *Key Activities*, available at: <https://pmc.gov.au/domestic-policy/national-office-child-safety>