



# Information Sheet

## National Principles for child safe organisations

Last updated: March 2026

The Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse (the Royal Commission) Final Report emphasised that members of the public, children and young people, parents, carers, families and communities should feel confident that organisations working with children provide safe environments in which children's rights, needs and best interests are met. The Royal Commission recommended the integration of 10 Child Safe Standards, the National Principles for Child Safe Organisations (National Principles), into organisational culture, policies and services to increase child safety and wellbeing.

Implementation of these National Principles is occurring throughout Australia and is relevant to all organisations who engage children and young people.

The [National Principles](#) are underpinned by the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child, adopts a strengths-based approach and are designed to allow for flexibility in implementation across different sectors and sizes of organisations who engage with children and young people. Importantly, it is about organisations creating an environment where child sexual abuse could be better prevented, identified, reported and responded to.

National Principles go beyond addressing child sexual abuse and have been created to prevent additional forms of abuse and potential harm for children and young people. This reflects the understanding that prevention of sexual abuse is best approached as part of broader efforts to prevent all other forms of abuse and neglect.

Child safe organisations create cultures, adopt strategies, and take action to prevent harm to children. The WA Government have created a [Child Safe Organisations Knowledge Hub](#) to support organisations to commence and continue implementation of the National Principles.

[SNAICC](#), in partnership with the [National Office for Child Safety](#), developed resources to support organisations working with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children, young people and communities to implement the National Principles.

The SNAICC [Keeping Our Kids Safe](#) resources applies a cultural lens to the National Principles to help organisations think about how to make themselves safer for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children.

The National Principles for Child Safe Organisations are:

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.

#### **How can we create an organisational culture that prioritises child safety?**

- Establish National Principles within our organisational governance.
- Promote child safety amongst members and the local community.
- Share policies, resources and professional learning opportunities that emphasise child safety.
- Balance a safety focus in all activities with positive interactions and environments that contribute to the healthy development of children.

## **More information**

To find out more about Early Years Networks, please visit our website or contact:

- **Web:** [www.communities.wa.gov.au](http://www.communities.wa.gov.au)
- **Email:** [EY@communities.wa.gov.au](mailto:EY@communities.wa.gov.au)