

# Commission for Children and Young People

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Tri Peaks  
New Child Safe Standards  
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COMMISSION FOR CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE

# Context



# The new Child Safe Standards

## **Standard 1**

Organisations establish a culturally safe environment in which the diverse and unique identities of Aboriginal children and young people are respected and valued

## **Standard 2**

Child safety and wellbeing is embedded in organisational leadership, governance and culture

## **Standard 3**

Children and young people are empowered about their rights, participate in decisions affecting them and are taken seriously

## **Standard 4**

Families and communities are informed, and involved in promoting child safety and wellbeing

## **Standard 5**

Equity is upheld and diverse needs respected in policy and practice

## **Standard 6**

People working with children and young people are suitable and supported to reflect child safety and wellbeing values in practice

## **Standard 7**

Processes for complaints and concerns are child focused

## **Standard 8**

Staff and volunteers are equipped with the knowledge, skills and awareness to keep children and young people safe through ongoing education and training

## **Standard 9**

Physical and online environments promote safety and wellbeing while minimising the opportunity for children and young people to be harmed

## **Standard 10**

Implementation of the Child Safe Standards is regularly reviewed and improved

## **Standard 11**

Policies and procedures document how the organisation is safe for children and young people



# Key differences

A culturally safe environment in which the diverse and unique identities and experiences of Aboriginal children and young people are respected and valued

New Standard  
1

Families and communities are informed, and involved in promoting child safety and wellbeing

New Standard  
4

Managing the risk of child abuse in online environments

New Standard  
9

Implementation of the Child Safe Standards is regularly reviewed and improved

New Standard  
10

Policies and procedures document how the organisation is safe for children and young people

New Standard  
11



# Child Safe Risk Assessment and Management

## **Child Safe Standard 9 – Physical and online environments promote safety and wellbeing while minimising the opportunity for children and young people to be harmed**

In complying with Child Safe Standard 9, an organisation must, at a minimum, ensure:

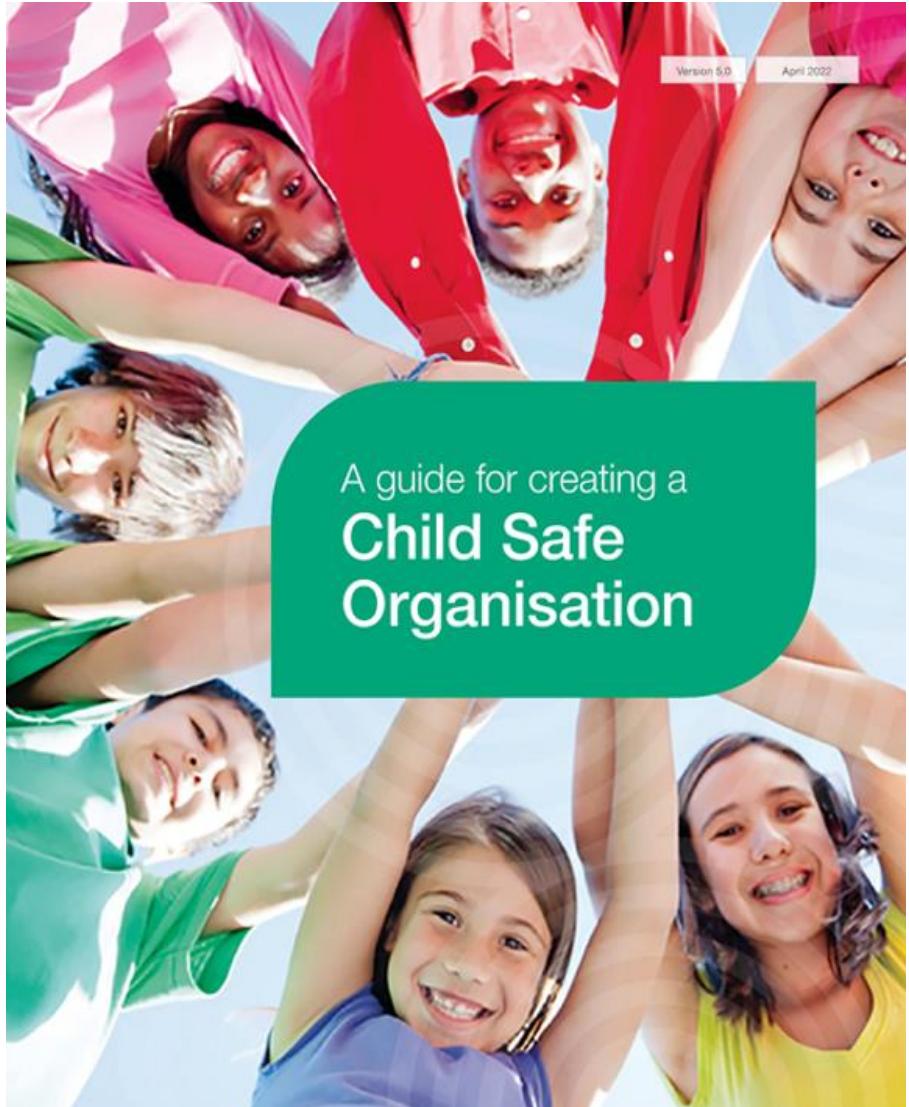
- 9.1** Staff and volunteers identify and mitigate risks in the online and physical environments without compromising a child's right to privacy, access to information, social connections and learning opportunities.
- 9.2** The online environment is used in accordance with the organisation's Code of Conduct and child safety and wellbeing policy and practices.
- 9.3** Risk management plans consider risks posed by organisational settings, activities, and the physical environment.
- 9.4** Organisations that contract facilities and services from third parties have procurement policies that ensure the safety of children and young people.

# The Commission's Regulatory Approach

- From 1 July 2022 we will begin regulating compliance with the new Standards. Compliance with the previous Standards will no longer be assessed.
- We will initially focus on informing and educating organisations about their obligations under the new Standards. However, there may be circumstances where we take other action, such as where serious safety risks to children and young people are identified.
- From January 2023, we will expect organisations to have more comprehensively implemented the new Standards.



# Commission Resources



# Culturally Safe Organisations

**Child Safe Standard 1** – Organisations establish a culturally safe environment in which the diverse and unique identities and experiences of Aboriginal children and young people are respected and valued

In complying with Child Safe Standard 1, an organisation must, at a minimum, ensure:

- 1.1** A child's ability to express their culture and enjoy their cultural rights is encouraged and actively supported.
- 1.2** Strategies are embedded within the organisation which equip all members to acknowledge and appreciate the strengths of Aboriginal culture and understand its importance to the wellbeing and safety of Aboriginal children and young people.
- 1.3** Measures are adopted by the organisation to ensure racism within the organisation is identified, confronted and not tolerated. Any instances of racism are addressed with appropriate consequences.
- 1.4** The organisation actively supports and facilitates participation and inclusion within it by Aboriginal children, young people and their families.
- 1.5** All of the organisation's policies, procedures, systems and processes together create a culturally safe and inclusive environment and meet the needs of Aboriginal children, young people and their families.

# Where to go for more information

You can contact the Commission with questions or queries:

- 📞 Telephone: 1300 782 978 or (03) 8601 5281
- ✉️ Email: [contact@ccyp.vic.gov.au](mailto:contact@ccyp.vic.gov.au)
- 💻 Visit the Commission's website: [www.ccyp.vic.gov.au](http://www.ccyp.vic.gov.au)

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