

New Victorian Child Safe Standard 9



Victorian Child Safe Standard 9: Physical and online environments promote safety and wellbeing while minimising the opportunity for children and young people to be harmed.

Changes – What's different to our existing framework?

- This standard places a stronger emphasis on involving staff and volunteers in the risk-management process.
- There is a stronger focus on senior leadership paving the way by informing staff and volunteers of the risk-management plans in place, and involving them in the process.
- Refer to the Self-Assessment Tool (Standard 8).

Implementation hints:

These implementation hints are not an exhaustive list, but are rather practical suggestions for bringing the standards to life within a parish. Some of these hints may not be relevant to your parish context, so you will need to contextualise the suggestions to reflect your parish setting.

- Establish and document a procedure to ensure that all parish-conducted programs, activities and events (including those held interstate and overseas) have a risk-management plan in place that is overseen by the Safeguarding Committee.
- Regularly monitor these documented risk-management plans. For example, you could set regular review dates each year.
- Involve senior parish leaders in the risk-assessment process, ensuring that risk assessment and management are focussed on identifying, preventing and reducing risks of child abuse and harm.
- Establish clear safeguarding processes and procedures for third parties who are separate from the parish but who use parish facilities. You could use the Archdiocese's 'Hire Agreement' template to support this process.
- Provide children and families with information about online safety and online safety risks.
- Only engage with the online environment in accordance with the Code of Conduct and relevant policies.

Links to additional resources:

- [INFORMATION SHEET: Situational Crime Prevention](#)
- [INFORMATION SHEET: Child Safety Risk Management](#)
- [INFORMATION SHEET: Safe Programs—Practice and behavioural guidelines](#)
- [INFORMATION SHEET: Photography and Video of Children and Young People](#)
- [TEMPLATE: Photography and Video Permission Form—please locate the template on this \[webpage\]\(#\)](#)
- [INFORMATION SHEET: Electronic Communication Including Social Media](#)
- [TEMPLATE: Consent to Participate in Programs—please locate the template on this \[webpage\]\(#\)](#)
- [TEMPLATE: Permission to Collect a Child or Young Person—please locate the template on this \[webpage\]\(#\)](#)
- [INFORMATION SHEET: Managing Persons Who May Pose a Risk to Children and Young People who Attend Your Parish, Agency or Entity](#)
- [INFORMATION SHEET: Application to Programs or Activities Run within an Archdiocesan Parish, Agency or Entity](#)
- [INFORMATION SHEET: Obligations of Organisations or Community Groups That Run or Auspice Community Programs within an archdiocesan Parish, Agency or Entity Contexts](#)
- [TEMPLATE: Hire Agreement—please locate the template on this \[webpage\]\(#\)](#)
- [INFORMATION SHEET: Child Safety Obligations for Contractors](#)
- [TEMPLATE: Child Safety Contractor Register—please locate the template on this \[webpage\]\(#\)](#)
- [ACSL Implementation Guide: Standard 8](#)
- [CCYP—A Guide for Creating a Child Safe Organisation](#)
- [CCYP—Short Guide to the Child Safe Standards](#)
- [CCYP—Victoria's New Child Safe Standards \(information sheet\)](#)

Where to for support?

You can contact the Safeguarding Unit for support on 9926 5621 / 0448 488 614 or send an email to the team at safeguardingunit@cam.org.au.

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