SAFEGUARDING UNIT

## New Victorian Child Safe Standard 10



## Victorian Child Safe Standard 10: Implementation of the Child Safe Standards is regularly reviewed and improved.

# Changes - What's different to our existing framework?

- This standard emphasises the documentation of safety incidences.
- CCYP define 'safety incidence' as 'any event of harm or abuse (which could be physical, emotional, sexual and psychological) of a child and includes incidents that could have caused harm or abuse to a child'.
- Refer to the Self-Assessment Tool (Standard 9).

#### 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.

- Set up a process following activities with children and young people whereby parish leaders contact the activity leaders to check in and reflect on safety incidences that might have occurred. This information can be gathered in a variety of ways, including: formal or informal conversations with activity leaders; a monthly electronic survey; a questionnaire; or a report that is filled out regularly by leaders and submitted to the parish Safeguarding Committee every three months. Some questions to prompt these conversations and reflections may include:
  - How did the activity go?
  - Did you notice anything that made you or participants uncomfortable?
  - Have you had any ideas of how to change the activity to make it feel safer/more comfortable for volunteers and participants?
  - Did you see any potential risks that could have occurred that have not been identified in the risk assessment?
- Develop a child safety risk register and review annually.
- Hold regular Safeguarding Committee meetings, and document and retain meeting minutes.
- Ensure the Safeguarding Committee communicates its ongoing progress to the Parish Pastoral Council, either quarterly or bi-annually.
- Complete the parish's annual Self-Assessment Tool and submit to PSU.
- Undertake risk assessments and maintain a risk register.
- Ensure that all policies and procedures include a schedule of review.

#### Links to additional resources:

- ACSL Implementation Guide: Standard 9
- <u>CCYP—A Guide for Creating a Child Safe</u> Organisation
- <u>CCYP–Short Guide to the Child Safe Standards</u>
- <u>CCYP—Victoria's New Child Safe Standards</u> (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.

#### Director

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