

Child Safe Newsletter

Wyndham Community & Education Centre

Volume 4.1

February 2022



Wyndham
Community &
Education Centre Inc.
Improving lives - Strengthening communities

Dear Wyndham CEC Community

From 1 July 2022 there will be new set Child Safe Standards for everyone at Wyndham CEC to abide by and understand. This newsletter will give you a quick introduction to the new standards which we have already incorporated into our Child Safe Policy and Code of Conduct. These can both be found on SharePoint.

Remember child safety is everyone's responsibility. Lesley Nallawalla. Child Safety Officer

What will be different?

Although similar to Victoria's current Child Safe Standards, key changes include new requirements:

- to involve families and communities in organisations' efforts to keep children and young people safe
- for a greater focus on safety for Aboriginal children and young people
- to manage the risk of child abuse in online environments
- in relation to governance, systems and processes to keep children and young people safe.

Wyndham CEC's Commitment to Child Safety

Wyndham CEC wants children to be safe, happy and empowered and supports and respects children attending the Centre, as well as staff and volunteers.

There are eleven new Child Safe Standards:

- **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)
- **Child Safe Standard 2** – Child safety and wellbeing is embedded in organisational leadership, governance and culture
- **Child Safe Standard 3** – Children and young people are empowered about their rights, participate in decisions affecting them and are taken seriously
- **Child Safe Standard 4** – Families and communities are informed, and involved in promoting child safety and wellbeing
- **Child Safe Standard 5** – Equity is upheld and diverse needs respected in policy and practice
- **Child Safe Standard 6** – People working with children and young people are suitable and supported to reflect child safety and wellbeing values in practice
- **Child Safe Standard 7** – Processes for complaints and concerns are child focused
- **Child Safe 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
- **Child Safe Standard 9** – Physical and online environments promote safety and wellbeing while minimising the opportunity for children and young people to be harmed
- **Child Safe Standard 10** – Implementation of the Child Safe Standards is regularly reviewed and improved
- **Child Safe Standard 11** – Policies and procedures document how the organisation is safe for children and young people

Children do
learn what they
live. Then they
grow up to live
what they've
learned.

Dorothy Nolte

Victoria has adopted an extra standard not in the National Principles, that being Standard 1.

- **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)

The rest of the Standards align with the National Principles.

Wyndham CEC's Statement of Commitment

Wyndham CEC is committed to Child Safety

Has zero tolerance of child abuse

And actively works to protect and empower children

Useful Support Services

Helping children and young people to... Speak up and make a complaint

Advice for parents Parentline Victoria > 13 22 89 parentline.com.au

Online and phone counselling for children and young people Kids Helpline – 1800 55 1800 or counsellor@kidshelpline.com.au > kidshelpline.com.au

Mental health support for children and young people headspace and eheadspace > [headspace](http://headspace.org.au) (Werribee- 8001 2366 headspace.org.au)

Information about children's rights Australian Human Rights Commission > childsafe.humanrights.gov.au

Complaints about a government organisation Search online for Children's Commissioner / Guardian or Ombudsman in your State or Territory Help for non-English speaking people Translating and Interpreting Service (TIS) National > tisnational.gov.au

24-hour telephone assistance is available through:

- **Lifeline - 13 11 14**
- **1800 Respect - 1800 737 732**
- **MensLine Australia - 1300 789 978**
- **Kids Helpline (5 to 25 year olds)- 1800 55 1800**
- **Beyond Blue- 1300 22 4636**

