



Save the Children



Child Safeguarding Policy

For young people aged twelve to eighteen (12-18) | May 2025

Why do we need this Policy?

We want to make sure that we are keeping you safe when you are in our programs, working with one of our partners or in the community.


Being safe means you are protected from being hurt, harmed, disrespected, or treated inappropriately.

No one should have to deal with any form of abuse or harm, and we take that seriously. All Save the Children Australia staff, and those we work with, have a responsibility to keep you safe and help you be the best version of you.

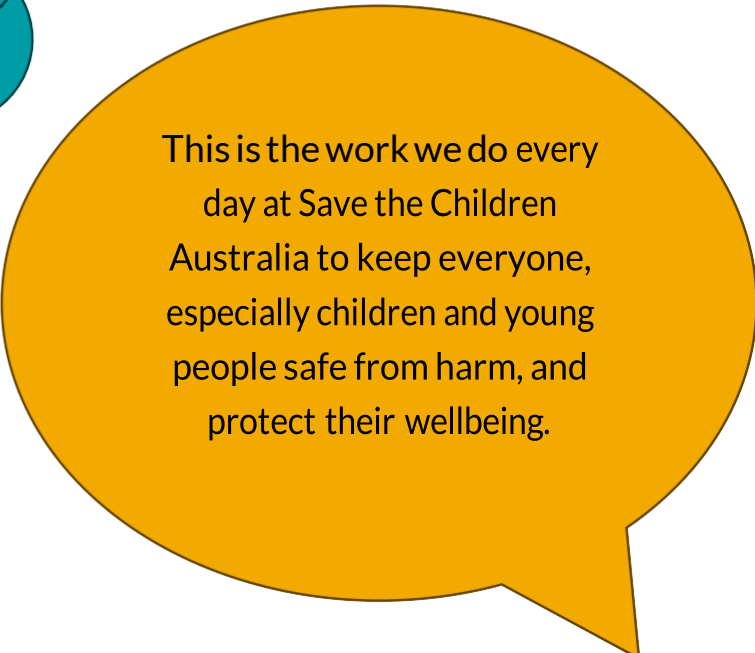
We will step up and do the right thing – ALWAYS.

This policy is taken from our main **Child Safeguarding Policy** and is designed to be used by young people aged twelve to eighteen years old.

If you would like to see our Child Safeguarding Policy it is linked [here](#), on our website or you can ask one of our staff members for a copy.



What does
safeguarding
mean?



This is the work we do every
day at Save the Children
Australia to keep everyone,
especially children and young
people safe from harm, and
protect their wellbeing.

What does Save the Children Australia do to keep me safe and promote my wellbeing?

We care about your safety and your wellbeing. We are also required by law to keep you safe when you are in any of our programs, and we do this by:

- ✓ Making sure our staff and people we work with are safe
- ✓ Making sure our staff and people we work with are suitable
- ✓ Making sure you know what we do to keep you safe
- ✓ Ensuring our spaces are safe
- ✓ Designing programs that are safe and appropriate
- ✓ Involving you, your family and your community in decision making
- ✓ Making sure you know where to go if you have an issue or a problem
- ✓ Helping you feel and be safe online
- ✓ Making sure we are inclusive and welcoming to ALL children and young people.
- ✓ By taking the time to understand your background, your culture, your identity and appreciate how amazing you are!

CHILDREN HAVE THE RIGHT TO

- ✓ grow up safe
- ✓ grow up healthy
- ✓ grow up learning
- ✓ grow up loved
- ~~grow up scared~~



Save the Children®

Abuse and Harm

We want to be really clear about what abuse and harm is. We have to know about these things so that we can recognise if things are happening to us.

Sexual Abuse

When someone touches your private parts* with a part of their body (including their hands or mouth) and could also include:

- Being forced to touch someone else's private parts*
- Being forced to watch sexual videos or look at sexual pictures
- Being forced to watch someone doing something sexual in real life

*Private parts- (penis, vulva, vagina, breasts, anus, testicles)

Physical Abuse

Where someone hurts you on purpose. This could include:

- Hitting (with hands or an object)
- Kicking
- Shaking
- Biting
- Slapping

Emotional/Verbal Abuse

When someone makes you feel upset. This could be in real life or online and could include:

- Shouting
- Calling you names or saying you are worthless
- Ignoring you
- Not listening to your views

It is not only adults who hurt children and young people. Sometimes it could be someone your own age or only a few years older than you who is hurting you or treating you inappropriately. **This is still abuse and is not ok.**



Being safe online and where to get help

The online world is a place where you may go and hang out with your friends or even make new ones.

Whether it's creating or consuming content, gaming, or messaging - it can be a fun place to be. It can also be a place where we can connect with people like us, who might like the same things, might share our identities, or might make us laugh.

Of course, just like in real life, things can go wrong online, and it is important you know how to get help fast if you need it.



Here are some things you might need help with:

- Reporting harmful content (violence, sexual images)
- Receiving unwanted messages or pictures
- Sextortion (being pressured to send pictures/money after sending nudes)
- Misinformation and rumours
- Doxing (having your information publicly shared)

Reporting online abuse and getting help

Police: Australia 000, Solomon Islands 999, Vanuatu 111, Papua New Guinea 112, Tonga 922

Australia: [Australian Centre to Counter Child Exploitation \(ACCCE\)](#)
(Report Abuse)

[eSafety Commissioner](#) (Report Abuse)

Pacific Islands: [I am Digital](#) is specifically designed for children and young people for use in the **Pacific Islands**.

Making a complaint

Could we be doing a better job?

Is someone at Save the Children making you feel uncomfortable?

Have you noticed something that is not ok in one of our programs?

Has someone hurt you or treated you inappropriately?

What should I do if I have a problem?

- You can tell us if you have a complaint, issue or concern
- Talk to us if something needs to change or you have any feedback about our service
- Talk to a parent a friend or someone you trust to tell us if something is wrong
- Youcantalkto**anyone**atSavetheChildrenin**anywayyouchoose**

Who can I talk to?

- You can speak to **any** Save the Children Australia staff member
- Email the Safeguarding team:
safeguarding@savethechildren.org.au
- Call the Safeguarding team: 02 8202 0401
- You can talk to **anyone** at Save the Children in **any way you choose**
- Australia: You can call Kids Helpline 1800 55 1800
- Vanuatu: You can call Youth Toll Free Helpline 087777

IF YOU ARE IN IMMEDIATE DANGER, CALL THE POLICE!

- Australia 000
- Solomon Islands 999
- Vanuatu 111
- Papua New Guinea 112
- Tonga 922



What Happens Next?



Save the Children staff **have to act** if you or someone has been hurt or is at risk of being hurt.

This means that sometimes we may have to speak to the Police, Child Protection or other agencies to make sure you and/or any other children and young people are being kept safe from abuse, harm or neglect.

