



CHILD SAFETY STANDARDS

Peer
Education
Initiative



3REAL MATES
EARN LEARN SUPPORTED

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What is the Child Safe Standards?

The Child Safe Standards are comprised of three overarching principles and seven broad standards. These have been designed to drive cultural change and promote child safety in organisations so that protecting children from abuse is embedded in the everyday thinking and practice of leaders, staff and volunteers. All rules and legislations align with the Victorian State Government Child Safe Standards.

This will assist 3RealMates to:

- Promote the safety of children
- Prevent child abuse
- Ensure effective processes are in place to respond to and report allegations of child abuse
- Encourage children to 'have a say', especially on issues that are important to them or about decisions during the course of the class sessions that have affected their lives.

Overarching Principles

As part of each standard, organisations must reflect and embed the following overarching principles:

- Promoting the cultural safety of children from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds
- Promoting the safety of children with a disability.
- Promoting overall safety, rights, and responsibilities of children of all ages and educational background.

Standards

The seven standards are as follows:

- Strategies to embed a culture of child safety through effective leadership arrangements and training.
- A child safe policy or statement of commitment to child safety.
- A code of conduct that establishes clear expectations for appropriate behaviour with children
- Screening, supervision, training, and other human resources practices that reduce the risk of child abuse by new and existing staff
- Processes for responding to and reporting suspected child abuse.
- Strategies to identify and reduce or remove risks of child abuse.
- Strategies to promote the participation and empowerment of children.

Statement of commitment to child safety

A statement of commitment to child safety should clearly state that as a 3RealMates tutor, you will:

- has zero-tolerance for child abuse
- actively works to listen to and empower children
- has systems to protect children from abuse, will take all allegations very seriously and will respond to them consistently in line with the organisation's policies and procedures
- is committed to promoting cultural safety of Aboriginal children, the cultural safety of children from culturally and/or linguistically diverse backgrounds and to providing a safe environment for children with a disability.