



Child Safe Standards compliance for all external contractors

Child Safe Standards

City of Port Phillip is committed to being a child safe organisation and has zero tolerance for child abuse.

We firmly commit to the safety and wellbeing of all our City's children and young people. This commitment extends to the cultural safety of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children and children from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds, and to the provision of a safe environment for children with disability, as well as other vulnerable groups of children and young people.

Why does my organisation need to do this?

We all have an obligation to do the best we can to keep children safe from harm and abuse.

Victorian organisations that provide services or facilities for children are **required by law** to implement Child Safe Standards(CSS) to protect children and young people from harm.

Compliance with the CSS is a Victorian Government requirement. Council has a role to ensure all services we fund or pay to deliver a service on our behalf or within our facilities **abide by State legislation**.

All organisations working with children and young people must take steps to prevent abuse. They cannot assume that child abuse does not, and cannot, happen within their organisation.

Who needs to comply with the Child Safe Standards?

Anyone involved in the delivery of activities, programs and services that engage with children and young people must understand and comply with legislation and regulations relating to child safety including the *Working with Children Act 2005*, the *Working with Children Regulations 2016* and the [Victorian Child Safe Standards](#) (CSS). These conditions will be included in all contracts, service agreements, purchase orders, grants or funding arrangements for service or programs that engage with children and young people.

More information on who needs to comply with the Victorian CSS can be found here:

<https://ccyp.vic.gov.au/child-safety/being-a-child-safe-organisation/the-child-safe-standards/who-do-the-standards-apply-to/>

What does my organisation need to do to demonstrate compliance with the CSS?

Council requires all services, organisations and programs, that are required to comply with the CSS, sign the [Declaration of compliance](#) form that outlines their compliance with the CSS.

If your organisation or services is not yet fully compliant with the Child Safe Standards you can agree to be actively working towards compliance to the satisfaction of the CCYP. This information can be captured on the [Declaration of compliance](#) form.

What if my organisation is not compliant or refuses to complete the CSS declaration?

If your organisations or services are not yet fully compliant with the Child Safe Standards they must agree to be actively working towards compliance to the satisfaction of the CCYP.

If you are required to comply with the Victorian CSS and refuse to complete the CSS declaration you **will not be approved** to provide service or receive funding or support from the City of Port Phillip.

Where can my organisation or service go for more information and training?

The CCYP provide several introductory information sessions that will provide an overview of each standards and how they might be practically applied in organisations. Upcoming session can be found [here](#).

There is also information on the CCYP [website](#) that will support your organisation to understand your responsibility under the CSS legislation.

For further information about the processes implemented at the City of Port Phillip to keep children and young people safe people you can contact CoPP Child Safety Officer via ASSIST 9209 6777.