

Red Cross Child Protection Policy

Australia Red Cross recognises that children are one of the most vulnerable groups in society. Red Cross acknowledges that contact and working with children is a critical responsibility and that, at all times, children have the right to be safe and protected.

The Child Protection Policy was approved by the Board on 18 October 2014. This policy applies to staff members, volunteers and members who come into contact or work with children.

The purpose of the Red Cross Child Protection Policy is to set out the standards of conduct and behaviour expected by Red Cross in order to protect children.

Members and the Child Protection Policy

All members (both new and existing) who come into contact or work with children as part of their Red Cross activities are deemed in scope of the Policy. Not all members will need to take action in regards to the Child Protection Policy, only those who work with, or come into contact with children.

Members are asked to undertake a self assessment to identify if they come into contact or work with children. This assessment is based on the type of contact with children and the regularity in which this contact takes place. *This self assessment can be found on the following page.*

For more information on members and the child protection policy please contact your State or Territory Membership Coordinator or the National Membership Team on members@redcross.org.au or 02 8265 3075.

Members who are Red Cross Service Volunteers

Members who are also volunteers will only need to sign the Child Protection Code of Conduct once. We are currently updating our national database to ensure that our records are up to date, and a double up of information does not occur.

Please advise your State or Territory Membership Coordinator or the National Membership Team on members@redcross.org.au if you have already completed these forms. From here we can ensure that our records correct.

Members Child Protection Self Assessment

The membership Child Protection self assessment is based on the type of contact with children and the regularity in which this contact takes place.

To undertake the self assessment below, take the following steps:

1. Think of the Red Cross activities you undertake
2. Determine the frequency of these activities (*the horizontal axis*)
3. Determine the type of contact you have with children in these activities (*the vertical axis*)
4. Determine if your activity is deemed working with children, coming into contact with children or not in scope.

Self Assessment of Membership Activities undertaken

TYPE OF CONTACT	Large group setting eg school event or shopping centre display				
	Small group setting with children and adults present				
	One on one contact with children				
		Regularly <i>(Weekly or Fortnightly)</i>	Semi Regularly <i>(monthly)</i>	Sporadic <i>(quarterly or less)</i>	One off events
FREQUENCY					

Members who work with children
Members who may come into contact with children
Not within scope

A guide to member activities is outlined below to assist in understanding what activities are in scope, and what actions are required to be taken by members in each category.

Guide to Member Activities within Scope

Member activities can be deemed as 'Working with Children', 'Coming into Contact with Children' or 'Not within scope'. Based on the self assessment above, a guide has been created to assist in determining what member activities fall within each category.

	Activities in Scope	Training Requirements / Actions
Members who work with children	After school homework club or reading circle outside of school organised activities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Sign the Child Protection Code of Conduct - Participate in Red Cross Child Protection Awareness Training - Complete a Criminal History Check - Complete a working with children check/s as relevant to State / Territory legislation
Members who may come into contact with children	Branch run retail stores Holding a stall at a school or community fete, function or event Visit school classroom and making trauma teddies (even with teacher present) Members who hold a leadership position eg Zone Representative, NYAC members and DAB Members	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Sign the Child Protection Code of Conduct
Not within scope	Speaking or presenting certificates at the local school assembly or classroom (teacher present) Sporadic street or shopping centre raffle Holding a stall at a school or community fete, function or event sporadically	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - No action required