

Child Protection and Safeguarding – Information for Red Cross Members

Australian Red Cross is committed to supporting child wellbeing and safety, and protecting children in our work. To help ensure children are safe and well, we apply a holistic view of children's wellbeing and an understanding of child safe practices.

We recognise that:

- Children have the right to feel safe and well, and to be safe and well, at all times.
- Children form one of the most vulnerable groups in our humanitarian work.
- Red Cross often works in contexts where children experience heightened vulnerability or whose own circumstances give rise to additional vulnerability.

We value and respect children. The best interests and the views of children are central to our decision making and actions. We are committed to upholding the rights of the child and to applying the principles of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child and the National Principles for Child Safe Organisations.

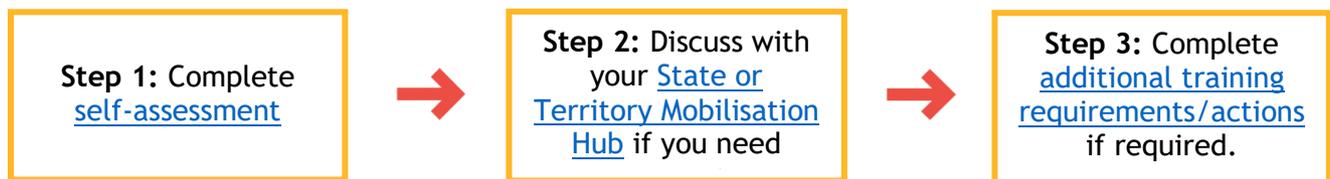
We have zero tolerance for any form of child abuse, neglect or exploitation, and will at all times act in accordance with Australian legal standards and obligations and the relevant laws of other countries in which we operate, in the context of international legal conventions, declarations and agreements relating to children's rights and protection.

The Red Cross Child Protection Policy details the obligations of all Red Cross People to keep children safe and well. The Child Protection Policy applies to Staff, Volunteers (incl. work experience students), and Members. It also applies to contractors (including sub-contractors and sole traders) and partner organisations who provide services or work with Red Cross in connection with any Red Cross activity which involves working with children, may involve contact with children or may involve access to records relating to children.

Members and the Child Protection Policy

All members are deemed in scope of the Policy though not all members will need to take further action beyond committing to the Child Protection Policy through the agreement to the Ethical Framework.

Members are asked to undertake a self-assessment (on page 2) to identify if they come into contact or work with children through their activities with and on behalf of Red Cross. This assessment is based on the type of contact with children, and the regularity in which this contact takes place.



Members Child Protection Self-Assessment

The Member 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.

TYPE OF CONTACT	Large group setting or shopping centre display				
	School events, small group settings with children, with parents/carers/teachers present at all times				
	One on one contact with children, and group settings including where parents/carers may be present intermittently (i.e., not at all times)				
		Regularly <i>(Weekly or Fortnightly)</i>	Semi Regularly <i>(monthly)</i>	Sporadic <i>(quarterly or less)</i>	One off events
FREQUENCY					

In – scope: Members who work with children

In scope: 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 with Safeguarding Requirements

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

	Example of Activities in Scope	Additional Training Requirements / Actions (facilitated by State or Territory Hub)
Members who work with children	After school homework club or reading circle outside of school organised activities.	Onboarded as a volunteer including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sign the Child Protection Code of Conduct • Complete Volunteer Induction (includes Child Protection e-learning) • Complete a Police Check Plus, additional requirements for volunteers in roles working with children: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Complete a working with children check/s as relevant to State / Territory legislation • Verbal Reference checks • Complete Red Cross Keeping Kids Safe Training (Level 1) <i>(Commencing 2022 or upon request of volunteer manager)</i>
Members who may come into contact with children	Branch run retail stores.	Onboarded as a volunteer , including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sign the Child Protection Code of Conduct • Complete Volunteer Induction (includes Child Protection e-learning) • Complete a Police Check
	Visit school classroom and making trauma teddies (with teacher present at all times) Holding a stall at a school or community fete, function or event	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sign the Child Protection Code of Conduct

<p>Not within scope</p>	<p>Speaking or presenting certificates at the local school assembly or classroom (teacher present at all times) as one off</p> <p>Sporadic (quarterly or less) street or shopping centre raffle</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No additional requirements beyond standard member onboarding process (agreeing to the Ethical Framework)
--------------------------------	---	--

For more information on members and the Child Protection Policy, or support in completing your self-assessment, please contact your [State or Territory Mobilisation Hub](#) or get in touch with the National Membership Team by emailing members@redcross.org.au.