

## **Child Safeguarding – Information for Red Cross Members**

Australian Red Cross is committed to protecting the rights of all people particularly those who may be experiencing vulnerability. We are a child safe organisation. We have zero tolerance for child abuse. We value, respect, and listen to children. We are committed to supporting child safety and wellbeing in our work.

We recognise that we work in contexts where children experience heightened vulnerability or where children's circumstances give rise to additional vulnerability, further highlighting our obligations to proactively keep children safe, strong, and well.

The Red Cross Child Safety and Wellbeing Policy details the obligations of all Red Cross People to keep children safe and well. The Child Safety and Wellbeing Policy applies to Staff, Volunteers (including work experience students), and Members. It also applies to suppliers (including contractors, 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 direct or indirect contact with children, including access to records relating to children.

### **Members and the Child Safety and Wellbeing Policy**

All members are deemed in scope of the Policy though not all members will need to take action beyond committing to the Child Safety and Wellbeing 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 Safeguarding Self-Assessment Process**

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

Once you have completed a self-assessment, cross check your result with the guidelines on additional training requirements or actions. Your local Mobilisation Hub can assist you with completing the self-assessment and will facilitate any additional training requirements or actions required.

## Step 1: Complete the self-assessment

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.

<b>TYPE OF CONTACT</b>	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)				
		<b>Regularly</b> (Weekly or Fortnightly)	<b>Semi Regularly</b> (Monthly)	<b>Sporadic</b> (Quarterly or less)	<b>Once off events</b>
<b>FREQUENCY</b>					

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

## Step 2: Check your assessment results against guidance on additional training or actions required

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.

## Guide to Member Activities with Safeguarding Requirements

	Example of Activities in Scope	Additional Training Requirements / Actions (facilitated by State or Territory Mobilisation Hub)
<b>Members who work directly with children</b>	After school homework club or reading circle outside of school organised activities.	<p><b>Onboarded as a volunteer</b> including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sign the Child Safe Code of Conduct</li> <li>• Complete Volunteer Induction (includes Child Safeguarding e-learning)</li> <li>• Complete a Police Check</li> </ul> <p><b>Plus, additional requirements for volunteers in roles working with children:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Complete a clearance to work with children as relevant to State / Territory legislation</li> <li>• Verbal Professional Reference checks</li> <li>• Complete Red Cross Keeping Kids Safe Training for Volunteers</li> <li>•</li> </ul>
<b>Members who may come into contact with children</b>	Branch run retail stores.	<p><b>Onboarded as a volunteer</b>, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sign the Child Safe Code of Conduct</li> <li>• Complete Volunteer Induction (includes Child Safeguarding e-learning)</li> <li>• Complete a Police Check</li> </ul>
	<p>Visit school classroom and making trauma teddies (with teacher present at all times)</p> <p>Holding a stall at a school or community fete, function or event.</p>	<p><b>Onboarding as a volunteer <u>not</u> required but members are to:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sign the Child Safe Code of Conduct</li> </ul>
<b>Not within scope</b>	<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"> <li>• No additional requirements beyond standard member onboarding process (agreeing to the Ethical Framework)</li> </ul>

### **Step 3: Reach out to your local Mobilisation Hub to facilitate additional training and/or actions**

If your activity falls **In scope: Members who work directly with children (red)** or **In scope: Members who may come into contact with children (orange)** please reach out to your local [State or Territory Mobilisation Hub](#) who will help to facilitate any training or additional actions required.

*For more information on members and the Child Safety and Wellbeing 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](mailto:members@redcross.org.au).*