# Child Safe Standards Risk Register template

This template has been prepared based on the common child safety risks in all school environments. It also includes controls that are likely to be in place in all government schools to mitigate these risks. Schools must:

1. carefully review the template wording, particularly in the ‘Existing Controls’ column. You **must** tailor the content to accurately reflect the actions currently being taken by your school (‘controls’)
2. consider whether those controls are adequate to manage the risk and record ‘Yes’ or ‘No in the ‘Controls Assessment’ column
3. identify additional actions the school will take (‘treatments’) if the current controls are not adequate to manage the risk
4. insert any new treatments and the person responsible for overseeing that action (e.g. Principal, Assistant Principal) in the ‘New Treatments and Who is Responsible’ column
5. insert a due date for the implementation of any new treatments in the ‘By When’ column
6. consider whether any additional risks arise in your school’s particular environment (e.g. areas that are open to members of the public or difficult to supervise) or the way the school premises are used (e.g. shared use of the school’s facilities with community groups) and, if so, identify and record the controls currently in place and any new treatments your school will implement to address these risks.

Further guidance for completing this template is available on [PROTECT](https://www.vic.gov.au/child-safety-risk-management). All instructional text in green highlight should be deleted or amended once the document has been finalised.

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| **School name:** |  | **Responsible staff member:** |  |
| **Date endorsed:** |  | **Endorsed by:** |  |
| **Next review date:** | Insert next review date that is a maximum of 12 months from the date endorsed | **File location:** |  |

| RISK TITLE AND DESCRIPTION | RISK ASSESSMENT | | EXISTING CONTROLS | CONTROLS ASSESSMENT | NEW TREATMENTS AND WHO IS  RESPONSIBLE? | BY WHEN? |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| *Provide a risk title and short description.* | *Describe the causes of the child safety risk.* | *Describe the consequences for children if the child safety risk happens* | *Describe the existing child safety and wellbeing controls you have in place to mitigate the child safety risk*  *Sample content is provided below* | *Taken together, are the controls adequate to reduce the risk and harms to a tolerable level?* | *If controls need to be strengthened, describe any new controls you will implement to mitigate the child safety risk and who is responsible for the new treatments?* | *When will this be done?* |
| **Child Safe Standard 1 – Aboriginal cultural safety** | | | | | | |
| **Risk Title:**  Culturally safe environments  **Description:**  There is a risk to Aboriginal children’s safety if the school fails to establish a culturally safe environment in which the diverse and unique identities and experiences of Aboriginal children and students are respected and valued  **Risk type:**  Situational, Organisational | * Racism, discrimination and bullying not adequately managed and addressed * Ignorance/lack of awareness * Curriculum that doesn’t include Aboriginal Australians * An unwelcoming environment for Aboriginal children * Policy development and review is not consultative * Insert any additional causes that apply in your school | * Aboriginal children experience physical and psychological harm or abuse because the environment is not culturally safe. * Aboriginal children are less likely to trust school staff which may result in them being less likely to report harm or abuse by adults or peers, and make them more vulnerable to harm * Aboriginal children do not feel welcome, safe, respected or valued for their diverse and unique identifies which may result in them being less likely to report harm or abuse by adults or peers and make them more vulnerable to harm | * Our Child Safety and Wellbeing Policy outlines the controls in place to establish a culturally safe environment and is implemented * Identify other documents that address Aboriginal cultural safety and include these here, such as your: * Action Plan * Student Wellbeing and Engagement Policy * Bullying Prevention Policy * Inclusion and Diversity Policy * Controls to address racism, discrimination and bullying are outlined in the Bullying Prevention Policy and the Student Wellbeing and Engagement Policy. * Insert any additional controls currently in place to address this risk | Yes/No | * Identify and insert any other actions your school plans to take using the guidance available at [PROTECT Child Safe Standard 1](http://www.vic.gov.au/guidance-schools-culturally-safe-environments) |  |
| **Child Safe Standard 2 – School leadership, governance and culture** | | | | | | |
| **Risk Title:**  Leadership, governance and culture  **Description:**  There is a risk to children’s safety if child safety and wellbeing is not embedded in the school’s leadership, governance and culture  **Risk type:**  Organisational, Propensity | * Children’s safety is not prioritised * Decision-making power is concentrated in one individual * Unclear accountabilities * Staff and volunteers are unaware of the school’s expectations relating to their conduct and role in supporting child safety and wellbeing * Culture of secret keeping * Poor management of conflicts of interest * Lack of leadership on child safety * Poor understanding of the foreseeable risks relating to harm or abuse * Poor recordkeeping and information management practices * Absence of or poor child safety messaging * Insert any additional causes that apply in your school | * Children experience physical harm or abuse because of leadership, governance and cultural failures * Children are harmed or abused and it remains undetected or without an appropriate response because the school does not have a culture of child safety and reporting of child safety incidents or concerns * Children are harmed or abused because staff and volunteer roles and responsibilities to prevent or report harm or abuse are not clearly communicated * Harm or abuse continues due to poor practices and understanding of information sharing obligation resulting in staff or volunteers not sharing important information to protect children from harm or abuse or conversely, sharing sensitive information inappropriately contributing to further harm to children. * Poor records and record-keeping limits   the ability of new principals to become aware of previous concerning staff behaviour   * Poor records and record-keeping practices contribute to delays or failures to identify and respond to child safety risks and incidents, causing obstructions to survivors seeking information about their time at the school and compromising the school’s ability to monitor for systemic issues that required changes to policy, procedure or practice. | * Our Child Safety and Wellbeing Policy outlines the controls in place to ensure a child safe culture is embedded across the school and is implemented * Our Child Safety Code of Conduct is adopted and actively enforced by school leadership. Inconsistent staff, contractor or volunteer conduct is swiftly addressed. * Our Child Safety Responding and Reporting Obligations Policy and Procedures outlines the actions staff must take to report concerns relating to child safety and our leaders ensure staff are aware of and follow these procedures * Our Child Safety and Wellbeing Policy and Code of Conduct are publicly available and promoted in the school community * This risk register is reviewed annually and after any significant child safety incident or concern * Our Volunteers Policy supports volunteers to understand their obligations on information sharing and recordkeeping * PROTECT posters and the Four Critical Actions are displayed around the school * Records management obligations are met through adherence to the [Records Management - School Records Policy](https://www2.education.vic.gov.au/pal/records-management/policy) and all staff and relevant volunteers understand their obligations on information sharing and record keeping through induction, training and support from leadership. * Insert any additional controls currently in place to address this risk | Yes/No | * Identify and insert any other actions your school plans to take using the guidance available at [PROTECT Child Safe Standard 2](http://www.vic.gov.au/guidance-schools-embed-child-safety-standards) |  |
| **Child Safe Standard 3 – Children are safe, informed and actively participate** | | | | | | |
| **Risk Title:** Student empowerment  **Description:** There is a risk to children’s safety if students are not empowered about their rights, able to participate in decisions affecting them or are not taken seriously  **Risk type:**  Vulnerability | * Children don’t know how to make a complaint or raise a concern or don’t feel confident that they will be listened to * Students don’t understand their rights * Student input in decision making is not supported or valued * Student contributions or concerns are not taken seriously * Students are not offered sexual abuse prevention education * Students are coerced or silenced by adults at the school * Lack of friendship or peer support * Insert any additional causes that apply in your school (e.g. students with disability or who speak English as an additional language may be unable to access sexual abuse prevention programs, not understand how to raise concerns or not have accessible avenues to do so) | * Children experience harm or abuse due to lack of knowledge and empowerment * Children do not feel supported to participate in decisions that affect them and do not feel like they will be listened to, reducing the likelihood that students will seek help or report harm or abuse * Children are not empowered with information about their rights, child safety risks, and sexual abuse prevention, which increases the risk of harm or abuse going unidentified and unspoken * Children do not feel confident or empowered to raise a concern and are unwilling to report harm or abuse * Children experience increased vulnerability to harm or abuse due to a lack of friendship or peer support * Children don’t feel confident to discuss safety concerns with their peers, making it more likely that harm or abuse will go unidentified and unspoken | * Our Child Safety and Wellbeing Policy outlines the controls in place to support child and student empowerment and is implemented * Complaints Policy details how students can raise complaints and concerns and is promoted widely to parents and students * Student Wellbeing and Engagement Policy outlines the controls in place to ensure student wellbeing is supported and prioritised * Students are provided with age-appropriate sexual abuse prevention programs and relevant related information through [Resilience, Rights and Respectful Relationships teaching and learning materials](https://www.education.vic.gov.au/school/teachers/teachingresources/discipline/capabilities/personal/Pages/respectfulrel.aspx#link47) * Students are educated about their rights through [school to insert how students are informed about their rights] * Friendship and peer support are promoted through [school to insert programs or actions in place] * Insert any additional controls currently in place to address this risk | Yes/No | * Identify and insert any other actions your school plans to take using the guidance available at [PROTECT Child Safe Standard 3](http://www.vic.gov.au/guidance-schools-child-student-empowerment) |  |
| **Child Safe Standard 4 – Family engagement** | | | | | | |
| **Risk Title:** Families and community involvement  **Description:** There is a risk to children’s safety if their families and communities are not informed or involved in promoting child safety and wellbeing  **Risk type:**  Organisational | * Unwelcoming staff * Lack of appreciation of the value of community consultation and engagement * The school does not offer information to families and communities or avenues to contribute to policies and decisions relating to child safety and wellbeing * Lack of staff training, cultural sensitivity or willingness to engage families and communities * Insert any additional causes that apply in your school (e.g. lack of accessible information about the school’s child safety practices for families from culturally and linguistically diverse communities) | * ssChildren experience harm or abuse due to an issue that may have been resolved if families and communities were engaged in child safety * Children do not feel safe or able to actively participate in school life (see Child Safe Standard 1 and 3) because child safety and wellbeing practices were developed without input from families, resulting in practices that do not cover all the diverse needs of all students * Children are not protected because families and communities are not engaged in child safety at the school and less likely to be able to support the school to reduce risk by keeping an eye out for unsafe behaviours and raising concerns * Children are at increased risk of harm or abuse because families cannot help students identify harm or abuse * Children who want to make a complaint are not supported by their families * Children may be more vulnerable to harm or abuse due to children and their families being groomed by perpetrators seeking to obtain their trust, and families being unaware of the signs of grooming, harm or abuse | * Our Child Safety and Wellbeing Policy outlines the controls in place to engage families and is implemented * All child safety and wellbeing policies and procedures are publicly available and promoted in the school community * Families and the school community are invited to have a say in the development and review of child safety and wellbeing policies, procedures and practices through [school to insert, e.g. the school website and newsletters] * Insert any additional controls currently in place to address this risk | Yes/No | * Identify and insert any other actions your school plans to take using the guidance available at [PROTECT Child Safe Standard 4](http://www.vic.gov.au/guidance-schools-family-engagement) |  |
| **Child Safe Standard 5 – Equity and diverse needs** | | | | | | |
| **Risk Title:** Diversity and equity  **Description:** There is a risk to children from diverse cohorts and their safety, if equity is not effectively upheld and diverse needs are not respected in policy and practice  **Risk type:**  Vulnerability | * Diverse cohorts have not been identified for targeted support (such as students with disability, students who identify as lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, intersex and queer (LGBTIQ+), students in out of home care, international students and students who are culturally and linguistically diverse) * Diverse cohorts not supported adequately * Diverse cohorts feel unwelcome * Lack of staff training on diversity and supporting and responding to vulnerable students * Lack of respectful culture * Incidents of discrimination or humiliation are not effectively addressed and managed * Insert any additional causes that apply in your school | * Children from diverse cohorts are more vulnerable to harm or abuse because their needs are not respected or accommodated * Children from diverse cohorts do not feel safe, or are not adequately supported for their diverse and specific needs, experience greater risk of harm or abuse and harm and will be less able or willing to report their concerns * Children experience discrimination which increases a child’s vulnerability to harm or abuse and harm and can also mean they are less likely to ask for help or speak up if they have a concern | * Our Child Safety and Wellbeing Policy outlines the controls in place to support equity and diverse needs and is implemented * Our Student Wellbeing and Engagement Policy outlines how the school pays particular attention to the needs of students with disability, students from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds, students who are unable to live at home, international students, and lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, intersex and queer (LGBTIQ+) students * Child safety information, support and complaints processes are culturally safe, accessible and easy to understand * If your school has other documents that address diversity and equity include these here, such as: * Bullying Prevention Policy * Inclusion and Diversity Policy * Our school implements: * [Resilience, Rights and Respectful Relationships and Building Respectful Relationships teaching and learning materials](https://www.education.vic.gov.au/school/teachers/teachingresources/discipline/capabilities/personal/Pages/respectfulrel.aspx) * Respectful Relationships whole school approach * Insert any additional controls currently in place to address this risk | Yes/No | * Identify and insert any other actions your school plans to take using the guidance available at [PROTECT Child Safe Standard 5](http://www.vic.gov.au/guidance-schools-diversity-equity) |  |
| **Child Safe Standard 6 – Suitable staff and volunteers** | | | | | | |
| **Risk Title:** Suitable staff (including contractors engaged by the school in child-related work)  **Description:** There is a risk to children’s safety if staff are not suitable to work with children or effectively supported to uphold child safety and wellbeing in practice  **Risk type:**  Organisational, Propensity | * Poor recruitment and pre-employment screening processes * Provision of false information during recruitment * Poor management of conflicts of interest * Insufficient induction on commencement of working at school * Inappropriate behaviour by other adults is not called out due to lack of empowerment or awareness of behaviours of concern * Insufficient promotion of the school’s commitment to child safety * Lack of child safety culture * Insufficient supervision * Performance management does not focus on or address concerns relating to child safety and wellbeing * Insert any additional causes that apply in your school | * Children experience harm or abuse due to unsuitable staff being appointed at the school * Children are harmed because the school does not sufficiently promote its commitment to child safety during recruitment processes, which fails to deter potential predators from seeking employment * Children are harmed because during recruitment, history and behaviours of concern relating to suitability to work with children are not identified * Children are harmed because conflicts of interests in recruiting staff means child safety is not responded to in an objective manner * Children are harmed because staff are not provided with sufficient child safety induction and ongoing child safety training which means staff fail to identify child safety risks and signs of harm, and are unable to respond and report appropriately when they form a reasonable belief that harm has occurred * Children are harmed because the school provides insufficient supervision of teaching practice and performance management for existing staff * Children are harmed because the school takes inadequate steps to address concerning staff behaviour * Children are harmed because staff do not understand their role and responsibilities in promoting and supporting child safety | * Our Child Safety and Wellbeing Policy outlines the controls in place: * for child safe recruitment and screening practices for staff. * to ensure staff are provided with an appropriate induction in the school’s child safety policies and practices. * to ensure ongoing supervision and management of staff is focused on child safety and wellbeing * All actions and strategies outlined in our Child Safety and Wellbeing Policy are implemented * Insert any additional controls currently in place to address this risk | Yes/No | * Identify and insert any other actions your school plans to take using the guidance available at [PROTECT Child Safe Standard 6](http://www.vic.gov.au/guidance-schools-suitable-staff-volunteers) |  |
| **Risk Title:** SuitableVolunteers  **Description:** There is a risk to children’s safety if volunteers are not suitable to work with children or effectively supported to uphold child safety and wellbeing in practice  **Risk type:**  Organisational, Propensity | * Screening processes lack sufficient strength to reveal histories and behaviours of concern * Systems, processes, policies and culture do not demonstrate sufficient strength and transparency to deter potential perpetrators from attempting predatory behaviours * Conflict of interest * Lack of child safety culture * Insufficient induction and training * Insufficient supervision * Insert any additional causes that apply in your school | * Children experience harm or abuse due to unsuitable volunteers being appointed at the school * Children are harmed because the school does not sufficiently promote its commitment to child safety, which fails to deter potential predators from volunteering at the school * Children are harmed because volunteers are not provided with sufficient child safety induction which means staff fail to identify child safety risks and signs of harm, and are unable to respond and report appropriately when they form a reasonable belief that harm has occurred * Children are harmed because volunteers receive insufficient supervision * Children are harmed because the school takes inadequate steps to address concerning behaviour (for example removing volunteer from duties or otherwise ensuring the volunteer does not demonstrate further behaviours of concern) | * Volunteer Policy outlines the controls in place to ensure volunteers are suitable to work with children including screening, induction, and ongoing management and supervision * Volunteers engaged to [school to insert volunteer activities that require additional screening as determined by the principal – eg volunteers engaged in regular after school sports training that may have more access to students in an unsupervised space, volunteers who will be escorting students on interstate or overseas trips as part of the excursion staff, volunteers who will be engaging closely with students in a school production where staff supervision may not always be present, volunteers who are not parents/carers of students] will be asked to undertake additional screening processes including proof of identity (where this has not already been established), and references addressing suitability for working with children. * Volunteers that are working with children or that may have access to students in unsupervised or high-risk settings will always be supervised by a member of school staff * Volunteer behaviour that is inconsistent with the school’s child safety and wellbeing policies and practices will be addressed by school staff swiftly and with a focus on child safety and wellbeing. * Insert any additional controls currently in place to address this risk | Yes/No | * Identify and insert any other actions your school plans to take using the guidance available at [PROTECT Child Safe Standard 6](http://www.vic.gov.au/guidance-schools-suitable-staff-volunteers) |  |
| **Child Safe Standard 7 – Complaints processes** | | | | | | |
| **Risk Title:** Complaints processes  **Description:** There is a risk to children's safety if processes for complaints and concerns:  - are not designed to be child focused and cannot be readily accessed, understood and used by children and the school community;  - do not provide clear guidance on responding to complaints and concerns, including reporting to relevant authorities.  **Risk type:**  Organisational, Vulnerability | * The complaints process is not publicly available * Complaints processes are not written in simple plain English * Children, parents and carers do not trust the process, or find the complaints process culturally unsafe or incompatible with their culture or religious practices * Children, parents and carers do not feel supported to make complaints or raise concerns * Children’s input in decision making is not valued * Children, parents and carers concerns/complaints are not taken seriously * Staff child safety responding and reporting obligations are not clearly described and communicated * The school’s complaints process is not child‑friendly or easy to follow * Insert any additional causes that apply in your school | * Children experience harm or abuse because complaints processes are not able to be used by children * Children and their families do not report behaviours of concern, harm or abuse because the complaints process is inaccessible, culturally unsafe, incompatible or unable to be understood * Children do not feel safe to report behaviours of concern, harm or abuse * Children experience additional harm because the actions in the complaints process are inappropriate or result in insufficient action being taken to protect children * Children experience harm or abuse because safety policies and procedures are not effectively documented or are difficult to understand, resulting in staff (particularly new staff) being unaware of their child safety obligations, roles and responsibilities      * Children are exposed to an increased level of danger due to a person who uses violence in their household (family violence) being made aware of an incident, suspicion or disclosure of harm or abuse being communicated by the school without consideration of safety in the home environment | * Our Complaints Policy outlines the controls in place to ensure students are provided with accessible, culturally safe and easily understood information on raising a complaint or concern * Our Child Safety Responding and Reporting Obligations Policy and Procedures outlines the procedures for responding to complaints or concerns relating to harm or abuse * The Complaints Policy and Child Safety Responding and Reporting Obligations Policy and Procedures are publicly available on the school website * The Complaints Policy and Child Safety Responding and Reporting Obligations Policy and Procedures are implemented by all relevant staff * Our Child Safety and Wellbeing Policy sets out all recordkeeping, privacy and information sharing obligations that must be met when responding to complaints and concerns. * All complaints and concerns are managed in accordance with employment law obligations and our school seeks advice from Employee Conduct Branch and Legal Division when dealing with complaints and concerns relating to harm or abuse by a member/former member of staff or school council employee or contractor * Insert any additional controls currently in place to address this risk | Yes/No | * Identify and insert any other actions your school plans to take using the guidance available at [PROTECT Child Safe Standard 7](http://www.vic.gov.au/guidance-schools-complaints-process) |  |
| **Child Safe Standard 8 – Child safety knowledge, skills and awareness** | | | | | | |
| **Risk Title:** Knowledge, skills and awareness  **Description:** There is a risk to children's safety if staff and volunteers are not equipped with the knowledge, skills and awareness to keep children and students safe through ongoing education and training  **Risk type:**  Organisational | * Child safety and wellbeing training not provided to staff and school council annually * Child safety and wellbeing training is not refreshed or updated where policy, practice or law has changed * Volunteers are not required to undertake child safety training that is appropriate to the nature of their role * Training does not cover all necessary topics * Training is poorly facilitated * Insert any additional causes that apply in your school (e.g. new staff may not understand the particular risks that can arise for students who require assistance with toileting or changing incontinence pads)   Also refer to Child Safe Standard 6 risks above | * Children experience harm or abuse due to staff and volunteers being inadequately equipped with the knowledge and skills to prevent harm or abuse or identify and respond to instances of harm or abuse if they occur * Children experience harm because staff and volunteers do not know how to identify child safety risks including inappropriate behaviour and signs of harm * Children experience harm because the   school’s child safety and wellbeing policies and practices are poorly understood by staff and volunteers   * Children are exposed to continued harm due to lack of staff knowledge, skills and awareness to stop harm or abuse from occurring | * Our Child Safety and Wellbeing Policy outlines the controls in place to ensure school council and school staff receive appropriate annual guidance and training on child safety and is implemented * Our Volunteers policy provides information on training for volunteers. * Volunteers that are engaged to [school to insert volunteer activities that require child safety training as determined by the principal – eg volunteers engaged in weekly after school sports training that may have more access to students in an unsupervised space, volunteers who will be escorting students on interstate or overseas trips as part of the excursion staff, volunteers who will be engaging closely with students in a school production where staff supervision may not always be present] are provided with child safety training that is appropriate to the activity and the volunteer’s role. * Insert any additional controls currently in place to address this risk (e.g. professional development that staff undertake in addition to the annual child safety training on the child safe standards, induction protocols to train staff on providing toileting support to students/incontinence pad changing practices) | Yes/No | * Identify and insert any other actions your school plans to take using the guidance available at [PROTECT Child Safe Standard 8](http://www.vic.gov.au/guidance-schools-knowledge-skills-awareness) |  |
| **Child Safe Standard 9 – Physical and online environments** | | | | | | |
| **Risk Title**: School physical environment  **Description**: There is a risk to children's safety if the school’s physical environment is not safe, or if risks in this environment are not managed or eliminated effectively  **Risk type:**  Situational | * Areas of child safety risk in the school buildings or grounds are not identified, appropriately supervised or managed. * Insert any additional causes that apply in your school (e.g. the school’s gymnasium is shared with a local sporting club during school hours; spaces at the school are shared by primary and secondary aged students; building works are taking place at the school and contractors are present on site during school hours; child safety risks that may arise when students are travelling between campuses; some learning areas may be more isolated; visibility to some learning areas may be limited; low fences or publicly accessible sections of the school) | * Children experience harm or abuse because the school physical environment is unsafe * Harm or abuse (either by adults or other students) occurs on school grounds or buildings because the school fails to identify and manage areas of risk in the school’s physical environment * Children experience harm on school grounds because the school’s built environment does not provide for adequate supervision, line of sight or visibility * Children are groomed, harmed or abused by adults connected to the school because the school environment limits supervision or visibility of staff-student interactions | * Yard Duty and Supervision Policy outlines supervision processes and requirements with a focus on child safety * Yard duty staff are trained to actively patrol the school grounds, paying particular attention to secluded areas that have been identified as high risk including [school to insert areas relevant to their school setting, e.g. shared primary and secondary areas] * Child safety and wellbeing policies, procedures and practices are in place to enable staff and volunteers to identify and mitigate risks in the physical school environment without compromising a child or student’s right to privacy, access to information, social connections and learning opportunities, including our Child Safety and Wellbeing Policy and Child Safety Code of Conduct * [School to insert additional information here that is specific to the risks in your setting eg: * Visitor and contractor sign-in process and requirement that visitors/contractors wear a lanyard * Regular reminders to staff to approach unaccompanied visitors at the school and monitor the school perimeter * Reduced entry and exit points at the school, with gates and signage that directs all visitors to access the site via the Administration Office * students advised that the lower oval is out of bounds as the area cannot be supervised * garden sheds and store cupboards are locked unless in use, with controlled access to keys * Access to isolated, internally lockable, hidden or darkrooms or environments at the school is restricted or prevented. * school grounds are well lit for after school activities * students are required to go to the bathroom with another student during class time * toilets and changing rooms are located in a central area of the school and the entrance and exit has good visibility from other areas of the school * Senior school students must remain at school during study blocks. Attendance is monitored by supervising staff * Secondary students take breaks for lunch and recess at different times to primary students * Secondary and primary students use different bathrooms * When works are being completed on the school grounds, works are fenced off and there is no interaction between students and building contractors] | Yes/No | * Identify and insert any other actions your school plans to take using the guidance available at [PROTECT Child Safe Standard 9](http://www.vic.gov.au/guidance-schools-physical-and-online-environments) |  |
| **Risk Title:** Online environment  **Description:** There is a risk to children’s safety if the school’s online environment is not safe, or if risks in this environment are not managed or eliminated effectively  **Risk type:**  Situational | * Child safety risks in the school’s online environment are not identified and appropriately managed. * Students are not provided with education about online risks and appropriate online behaviours. * Online safety measures fail to adapt to emerging technologies and child safety risks * Online communication channels between adults working in the school and students are not monitored or have insufficient safeguards to prevent inappropriate one to one communication * Insert any additional causes that apply in your school | * Children experience harm or abuse because the school’s online environment is unsafe * Children experience harm if policies, procedures and practices fail to identify and manage areas of risk in the school’s online environment * Children are groomed online * Children are harmed or abused as a result of undetected grooming * Children are harmed by other students as a result of the school environment not providing for adequate boundaries, supervision and oversight of online school activities | * Digital Learning Policy outlines the controls in place for online conduct and online safety and is implemented * Acceptable Use Agreements are in place and enforced * Child safety and wellbeing policies, procedures and practices are in place to enable staff and volunteers to identify and mitigate risks in the online school environment without compromising a child or student’s right to privacy, access to information, social connections and learning opportunities, including our Child Safety and Wellbeing Policy and Child Safety Code of Conduct * Staff undertake a privacy impact assessment for apps and other platforms in use by the school which includes the risk of access to children or personal information by people external to the school. * Our school complies with the department’s [Cybersafety and Responsible Use of Digital Technologies](https://www2.education.vic.gov.au/pal/cybersafety/policy) policy and [Digital Learning in Schools](https://www2.education.vic.gov.au/pal/digital-learning/policy) policy * School to insert the measures in place to reduce risk relating to inappropriate online communications channels between staff and students (e.g. “Our school reminds staff at the beginning of each school year that they are only permitted to use [insert school approved platform that can be monitored, such as Compass and/or school email] to communicate with students”) * Insert any other actions the school takes to reduce risks relating to online environments including education provided to students and information provided to parents about the role parents can play in monitoring their child’s use of digital devices. | Yes/No | * Identify and insert any other actions your school plans to take using the guidance available at [PROTECT Child Safe Standard 9](http://www.vic.gov.au/guidance-schools-physical-and-online-environments) |  |
| **Risk Title:** Off-site school activities and use of third-party providers  **Description:**  There is a risk to children’s safety if the school’s child safety policies, procedures and practices do not adequately address and manage the risk of harm or abuse at school activities off-site and/or school activities involving third party providers.  **Risk type:**  Situational, Organisational, Propensity, Vulnerability | * School staff fail to identify and manage risks of harm or abuse occurring during off-site school activities * School staff fail to identify and manage risks of harm or abuse by third-party providers engaged by the school * School does not consider child safety during procurement processes * School does not consider child safety during procurement processes * Insert any additional causes that apply in your school | * Children experience harm or abuse because the school does not adequately manage safety with third‑party providers * Children are harmed because policies, procedures and practices fail to identify and manage areas of risk for off-site school activities and school activities that involve third‑party providers * Children experience harm or abuse because they are transported by adults connected with the school in private vehicles without appropriate oversight from school leadership | * Our school complies with relevant policies with respect to the following activities, including policy relating to child safety and wellbeing: * Government schools – [update the following list of DE policies to include those that are relevant to your school’s activities. Note that the first two policies (Excursions and Procurement) are relevant to all schools and should be retained] * [Excursions](https://www2.education.vic.gov.au/pal/excursions/policy) * [Procurement](https://www2.education.vic.gov.au/pal/procurement-in-schools/policy) * [School Bus Program](https://www2.education.vic.gov.au/pal/school-bus-program/policy) * [Doctors in Secondary Schools](https://www2.education.vic.gov.au/pal/doctors-secondary-schools/policy) * [NDIS Funded Therapy in Schools](https://www2.education.vic.gov.au/pal/ndis-funded-therapy/policy) * [Work Experience](https://www2.education.vic.gov.au/pal/work-experience/policy) * [Structured Workplace Learning](https://www2.education.vic.gov.au/pal/structured-workplace-learning/policy) * [School Based Apprenticeships and Traineeships](https://www2.education.vic.gov.au/pal/school-based-apprenticeships-and-traineeships/policy) * [School Community Work](https://www2.education.vic.gov.au/pal/school-community-work/policy) * [Purchasing Secondary Courses and Vocational Training from External Providers](https://www2.education.vic.gov.au/pal/purchasing-secondary-courses/policy) * [Community VCAL](https://www2.education.vic.gov.au/pal/community-vcal/policy) * For others, see the [Policy and Advisory Library](https://www2.education.vic.gov.au/pal) * Non-government schools – list policies relevant to your context or setting * For government schools only: Our school completes an Excursions Risk Register and Emergency Management plan when required under the department’s Excursions policy, including for overnight stays, and identifies, records and implements the controls in place to reduce the risk of students being harmed by child safety incidents occurring on the excursion. * For off-site school activities and school activities engaging a third-party provider, we identify and assess the risks of harm or abuse that are specific to that activity and ensure appropriate controls are in place. This includes activities such as: [insert any activities the school currently undertakes that involved third party providers such as football clinics on or off-site, homework clubs run by third party providers] * Insert any additional controls currently in place to address this risk in the context of different offsite activities or where third party providers are used, e.g.:   **Procurement and third parties:**   * We require contractors to provide their Working with Children Clearance upon entry to the school. * We provide contractors with a copy of the Child Safety Code of Conduct and Child Safety and Wellbeing Policy * All third party providers are required to enter into agreements with the school that include appropriate child safety obligations   **Work experience and structured workplace learning**   * The Department’s Work Experience Policy must be adhered to for each Workplace Learning Option prior, during, and following the period of Work Placement. * Information provided to employer about the Child Safe Standards and acceptable and unacceptable behaviours in dealing with students, including the Fact Sheet for Employers: Child Safe Standards and Workplace Learning * Employer provided with a copy of the school’s Child Safety Policy and Code of Conduct * Work Experience Coordinator is available as a contact person for the student for the period of the arrangement * Our students have the Work Experience Coordinator’s contact details to report any incidents * Work Experience Coordinator visits or contacts new employers prior to work experience to ensure that an appropriate program is organised for the student * We keep a database of information about work experience placements, including any issues regarding employers | Yes/No | * Identify and insert any other actions the school plans to take using the guidance available at [PROTECT Child Safe Standard 9](http://www.vic.gov.au/guidance-schools-physical-and-online-environments) |  |
| **Child Safe Standard 10 – Review of child safety practices** | | | | | | |
| **Risk Title:** Review and improvement  **Description:** There is a risk to children's safety if the implementation of the Child Safe Standards is not regularly reviewed and improved  **Risk type:**  Organisational | * Failure to regularly review child safety policies, procedures and practices (every 2 years) or following any significant child safety incident * Failure to use analysis of complaints, concerns and safety incidents to inform possible improvements to child safety policies, procedures and practices * Failure to inform families and communities of the outcome of reviews of child safety policies, procedures and practices * Insert any additional causes that apply in your school | * Children are harmed because safety policy, procedures and practices are out of date with any new laws or guidance on good child safety practice * Children are harmed because child safety policy, procedures and practices no longer meet the needs of the local school community * Children are harmed because child safety policy, procedures and practices are not improved as a result of analysis of past complaints, concerns and safety incidents, reducing the school’s ability to protect students from harm or abuse and to respond appropriately to complaints and concerns | [Insert the ways your school ensures child safety policies, procedures and practices are regularly reviewed and improved, for example:   * A register of the school’s policies relating to the child safe standards, including approvers and review cycles is used to support staff to maintain and update our policies * A working group (led by the child safety champion) is established to review child safety policies and procedures * We determine the causes of child safety incidents and monitor for repeat issues or systemic failures, updating any child safety policy, procedure or practice where gaps or improvements are identified * We have a log of complaints and concerns to allow us to monitor areas for improvement in our child safety policies, procedures and practices. * We inform families through our school’s newsletter when child safety and wellbeing policies are being reviewed and ensure they are invited to provide feedback * Child Safety is a standing agenda item in staff and school leadership meetings | Yes/No | * Identify and insert other actions the school plans to take using the guidance available at [PROTECT Child Safe Standard 10](http://www.vic.gov.au/guidance-schools-review-child-safety-practices) |  |
| **Child Safe Standard 11 – Implementation of child safety practices** | | | | | | |
| **sssssssss** | * Policies and procedures are developed, but not implemented by school staff * Policies and procedures do not address all actions and measures required under the Child Safe Standards * Policies and procedures are not informed by best practice models and family and community engagement * Staff and relevant volunteers are not provided with an adequate induction or ongoing training and are not properly supported to implement the policies and procedures due to lack of modelling and support from leaders * Policies and procedures are difficult to understand * Policies and procedures are not realistic or feasible * Policies and procedures are unsuitable and may cause additional harm or danger to children * Insert any additional causes that apply in your school | * Children experience harm or abuse because child safety policies and procedures are not implemented effectively or at all * Children will experience harm because child safety policies and procedures fail to address all aspects of the Child Safe Standards, result in gaps in protection of children and increased risk of harm or abuse * Children are exposed to inappropriate behaviour, groomed, harmed or abused because the school failed to induct, train and support staff and relevant volunteers to implement child safety policies and procedures properly * If child safety policies and procedures are not effectively documented or are difficult to understand it may result in staff (particularly new staff) being unaware of their child safety obligations, roles and responsibilities increasing the risk of harm or abuse * If child safety policies and procedures are not informed by best practice or family and community engagement it may compromise the school’s ability to protect children from harm or abuse. | * Our suite of child safety and wellbeing policies and procedures address all aspects of the Child Safe Standards * Our staff and relevant volunteers are inducted and trained on our child safety and wellbeing policies, procedures and practices and are supported to implement them * Our school leaders champion and model our child safety policies, procedures and practices and address any performance concerns relating to staff conduct or implementation * Our Child Safety Champion regularly reviews [PROTECT guidance](http://www.vic.gov.au/new-child-safe-standards-schools) and other relevant policies to ensure our own local child safety policies, procedures and practices are informed by best practice and updated where required. * Insert any additional controls currently in place to address this risk | Yes/No | * Identify and insert other actions your school plans to take using the guidance available at [PROTECT Child Safe Standard 11](http://www.vic.gov.au/guidance-schools-implementation-child-safety-practices) |  |