



CHILD SAFETY POLICY

POLICY FOR MEMBERS WORKING WITH CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE

Members of the Isolated Children's Parents' Association South Australia (ICPA SA) are required to abide by this policy during all Association events and proceedings including children and young people.

All people involved in the care of children on behalf of ICPA SA will:

1. Work towards the achievement of the aims and purposes of the organisation;
2. Be responsible for relevant administration of programs and activities in their area;
3. Maintain a duty of care towards others involved in these programs and activities;
4. Establish and maintain a child-safe environment in the course of their work;
5. Be fair, considerate and honest with others;
6. Treat children and young people with respect and value their ideas and opinions;
7. Act as positive role models in their conduct with children and young people.
8. Be professional in their actions;
9. Maintain strict impartiality;
10. Respect the privacy of children, their families and teachers/carers, and only disclose information to people who have a need to know;
11. Maintain a child-safe environment for children and young people;
12. Operate within the policies and guidelines of ICPA SA; and
13. Contact the police if a child is at immediate risk of abuse.

No person shall:

1. Shame, humiliate, oppress, belittle or degrade children or young people;
2. Unlawfully discriminate against any child;
3. Engage in any activity with a child or young person that is likely to physically or emotionally harm them;
4. Initiate unnecessary physical contact with a child or young person, or do things of a personal nature for them that they can do for themselves;

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5. Be alone with a child or young person unnecessarily and for more than a very short time;
6. Develop a 'special' relationship with a specific child or young person for their own needs;
7. Show favouritism through the provision of gifts or inappropriate attention;
8. Arrange contact, including online contact, with children or young people outside of the organisation's programs and activities;
9. Photograph or video a child or young person without the consent of the child and his/her parents or guardians;
10. Work with children or young people while under the influence of alcohol or illegal drugs;
11. Engage in open discussions of a mature or adult nature in the presence of children;
12. Use inappropriate language in the presence of children; or
13. Do anything in contravention of the organisation's policies and procedures



Reporting:

Should a member have a reason to suspect a child involved in an ICPA SA event is experiencing harm, or is at risk of experiencing harm or being neglected, they should contact Child Safety Services and speak to someone about their concerns:

Contact the Government of South Australia Department of Child Protection -

- Child Abuse Report Line (CARL) 131 478

You will be asked to provide information to help work out the best way to respond to the situation. It is important for you to call to report your concerns and to provide as much detail as possible. Your details will be kept confidential and your identity strictly protected. Members would also be encouraged to report any child safety incidents or concerns to the state president by phone or sapresident@icpa.com.au as soon as possible. Again, identifying information can remain confidential.

What happens if you breach this Policy:

If you breach this Code of Conduct you will face disciplinary action which may include the cessation of membership with ICPA SA and, if necessary, reporting to the appropriate authority.