

## RESOURCES

Further information re individual state or territory legislation and processes can be found at the following websites.

### South Australia

[www.childprotection.sa.gov.au](http://www.childprotection.sa.gov.au)

### Northern Territory

[www.workingwithchildren.gov.au](http://www.workingwithchildren.gov.au)

### Victoria

[www.dhs.vic.gov.au](http://www.dhs.vic.gov.au)  
(policies, guidelines and legislation)

### Tasmania

[www.justice.tas.gov.au/workingwithchildren](http://www.justice.tas.gov.au/workingwithchildren)

### Queensland

[www.bluecard.gov.au](http://www.bluecard.gov.au)

### Western Australia

[www.workingwithchildren.wa.gov.au](http://www.workingwithchildren.wa.gov.au)

### New South Wales

[www.kidsguardian.nsw.gov.au/working-with-children](http://www.kidsguardian.nsw.gov.au/working-with-children)



## CONTACT INFORMATION

### Australian Baptist Ministries

02 9868 9236

### Baptist Churches of South Australia & Northern Territory

08 8357 1755

### Baptist Union of Victoria & Baptist Churches of Tasmania

03 9880 6100

### Queensland Baptists

07 3354 5600

### Baptist Churches Western Australia

08 6313 6300

### Baptist Churches of NSW & ACT

02 9868 9200

### Baptist Care Australia

02 6195 3176

### Baptist World Aid Australia

02 9451 1199

### Global Interaction

03 9819 4944



**AN AUSTRALIAN BAPTIST RESPONSE  
TO WORKING WITH CHILDREN,  
YOUTH AND VULNERABLE PERSONS\***





## An Australian Baptist Response to Working With Children, Youth and Vulnerable Persons\*

*\*A vulnerable person is an individual aged 18 years and above who is or may be unable to take care of themselves, or is unable to protect themselves against harm or exploitation by reason of age, illness, trauma or disability, or any other reason.*

Australian Baptists are committed to promoting the welfare of children, youth and vulnerable persons participating in any of their ministries or activities by protecting their rights and also protecting them from harm. This is facilitated through a commitment to nationally agreed standards. Even though legislation differs in each state, these standards are consistent with legislation in each state.

**1. Fostering a culture of Child Safety** through constant communication and reinforcement of these principles at all levels in all our churches and/or organisations.

**2. Establishing Codes of Conduct** for all persons working with children, youth and vulnerable persons, which set out clear standards of behaviour and attitudes required of anybody working with them.

**3. Rigorous screening and selection processes** for determining the suitability of persons to work with children, youth and vulnerable persons. All persons working with children, youth and vulnerable persons will also

be given an appropriate induction and receive ongoing training during the time of their involvement.

**4. Clear and transparent processes for dealing with Concerns** including how disclosures, suspicion of harm and / or allegations of potential harm are handled and reported to relevant authorities. This would also include appropriate responses for anyone seeking redress. All complaints will also be taken seriously and responded to promptly.

**5. Risk Management Approaches** which, identify, assess and minimise risk in the physical and online environment including the mitigation of those risks through appropriate strategies and action (e.g. Risk management plans formulated and implemented).

**6. Mechanisms promoting the participation and empowerment of children and/or youth** through listening and input from children, youth and vulnerable persons. Particular attention will also be given to the needs of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Children.

**7. A commitment to transparent and regular communication** to all parents and other stakeholders regarding our principles and the processes adopted in ensuring the welfare of children, youth and vulnerable persons participating in our activities or ministries. Regular feedback will also be invited from families whose children, youth and vulnerable persons are involved in our ministries or activities.

**8. Addressing privacy considerations** by ensuring children, youth and vulnerable person's personal information is treated appropriately. This includes how the information is collected, stored and used.

**9. A commitment to continuous improvement** that involves reviewing, monitoring and adapting policies and procedures in response to changing circumstances, legislation and the needs of those in our care.

**10. Compliance** with all relevant legislation and regulations related to working with children, youth and vulnerable persons including working with children checks or their equivalent.