

# National Child Safety Code of Conduct

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints Australia

THE CHURCH OF  
**JESUS CHRIST**  
OF LATTER-DAY SAINTS

**Note:** A “child” is any person under the age of 18



## The Church’s Commitment to Child Safety

*The Lord condemns abuse in any form—  
including neglect and physical,  
sexual and emotional abuse.*

First Presidency Letter, 28 July 2008

*We desire that additional effort be given  
to ensure that all children and youth who  
attend Church services and activities are  
treated with kindness and protected against  
abuse or mistreatment of any kind.*

First Presidency Letter, 23 February 2006

**OBTAIN** current state-specific working with children credentials before you start any calling to work with children.

**TREAT** all children with kindness and respect.

**ABIDE** by Church standards promoting clean speech, virtuous conduct, modesty, the Word of Wisdom, etc.

**PROTECT** children from abuse, neglect, harassment and bullying.

**REPORT** promptly to your bishop or stake president or other trusted leader any actual or suspected physical, sexual or emotional abuse or neglect of a child. Report to government authorities as required by law.

**NEVER** ignore any reports of abuse, neglect, harassment or bullying, especially if they come from a child.

**DO NOT** touch any child in an abusive (sexual or physically violent) manner.

**DO NOT** engage in inappropriate physical contact with a child, or assist children with personal matters they can do for themselves. Ask a parent or guardian to change their child’s nappies or take their child to the toilet.

**DO NOT** treat a misbehaving child harshly—speak calmly and with love; if needed, alert the child’s parents/guardian or leaders.

**DO NOT** engage in inappropriate relationships with a child, and if you become aware of an inappropriate relationship developing between another adult and a child, bring it to the attention of your bishop or branch president.

**DO NOT** publish on social media any photos of children without the consent of their parent or guardian. Do not communicate privately with a child online outside of normal Church notices or information.

**NO MEMBER** should have sexually suggestive, adult-themed or pornographic material of any kind in their possession, and all members should protect children from such material.

**NO MEMBER** should swear or use profane, coarse, abusive or otherwise inappropriate language at any time, and all members should protect children from hearing such language and encourage them not to use it themselves.

**IF YOU BELIEVE A CHILD IS AT IMMEDIATE RISK OF ABUSE CALL THE POLICE (000)**

**FOR ANY QUESTIONS OR CONCERNS:** Talk to your bishop/branch president or stake/district president