

CHILD SAFE STANDARD 7: Strategies to promote the participation and empowerment of children.

This means supporting children and young people to understand their rights, contribute to child safety planning and to raise concerns by:

- Valuing and respecting children's opinions
- Encouraging children's participation in decision making
- Establishing an environment of trust and inclusion that enables children to ask questions and speak up if they are worried or feeling unsafe.

Practical things Centres can do:

- Provide children with child-appropriate and accessible information about what child abuse, their rights and how they can raise any concerns.
- Provide opportunities for children to provide suggestions and thoughts on what child safety means to them through a range of methods. This could include email, suggestion boxes, feedback sessions.
- Ensure committee members and volunteers receive training on how to engage and empower children on this issue.

Resources

Training Link on How to Empower Children

<https://ccyp.vic.gov.au/assets/resources/Empowerment-and-Participation-Guide/CCYP-Empowerment-and-participation-guide-for-Web.pdf>

Commission of Children and Young People Standard 7

<https://ccyp.vic.gov.au/child-safety/being-a-child-safe-organisation/the-child-safe-standards/standard-7-empowering-children/>