



Policy E34 Child Safety Risk Management Framework

PURPOSE

The framework aims to create a safe and supportive environment for students under 18 at Murray ACE Swan Hill Inc. by systematically identifying, assessing, and mitigating risks.

Risk Identification

This stage is crucial for proactive safety management.

- **Policy Review:** Ensures that the organisation's practices align with current child protection laws and regulations.
- **Stakeholder Consultation:** Engaging with those affected (staff, parents, students) allows for a comprehensive understanding of potential risks.
- **Environment Assessment:** Identifies physical safety hazards, ensuring that spaces are safe for minors.
- **Activity Analysis:** Evaluates all activities for age-appropriate safety measures.
- **Historical Data Review:** Learning from past incidents enhances future prevention strategies.

Risk Assessment

This process allows for prioritising risks based on their potential impact.

- **Risk Categorization:** Differentiates between various types of risks (e.g., emotional vs. physical).
- **Vulnerability Analysis:** Recognises the unique challenges faced by younger individuals.
- **Risk Matrix Creation:** Visual tools help in understanding which risks need immediate attention.

Risk Mitigation Strategies

Developing effective strategies reduces the likelihood of incidents.

- **Policy Development:** Clear guidelines and codes of conduct set expectations for behavior.
- **Staff Training:** Regular training on child safety is essential for awareness and preparedness.
- **Supervision Protocols:** Appropriate supervision ratios safeguard against potential risks.
- **Safety Procedures:** Emergency plans tailored to children's needs enhance preparedness.
- **Parental Involvement:** Involving parents fosters a community approach to child safety.

Implementation

Effective execution ensures that policies are followed.

- **Assign Responsibilities:** A designated Child Safety Officer ensures accountability.
- **Resource Allocation:** Providing necessary tools and materials supports effective implementation.
- **Communication Plan:** Clear messaging ensures that all stakeholders understand their roles in maintaining safety.



Monitoring and Review

Continuous evaluation is vital for maintaining a safe environment.

- Regular Audits: Periodic assessments identify areas for improvement.
- Ensure all areas for improvement are entered on to the Child Safety Risk Register and reviewed regularly.
- Incident Reporting System: A confidential mechanism encourages reporting and transparency.
- Feedback Mechanism: Open channels for feedback promote a culture of safety and continuous improvement.

Crisis Management Plan

Preparedness for emergencies is critical.

- Crisis Protocols: Clearly defined procedures ensure effective response during incidents.
- Support Services: Providing access to counselling helps address the emotional impact of incidents.

Compliance and Legal Obligations

Staying informed about legal requirements protects the organization and its stakeholders.

- Legislative Awareness: Ongoing education on laws ensures compliance and best practices.
- Reporting Obligations: Training staff on mandatory reporting cultivates a culture of accountability.

Conclusion

By implementing this structured Child Safety Risk Management Framework, Murray ACE Swan Hill Inc. not only safeguards its underage students but also fosters a proactive culture of safety and continuous improvement. Regular training, stakeholder engagement, and adherence to legal obligations are essential in creating a secure and nurturing environment for all students.

Related Documents or links

Nil

Date Endorsed by Committee of Management

Date of Review

24-09-2024

Name & Position

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**New document –
ratified at CoM
Meeting 24/09/24**