



CUSC Child safe Policy:

Providing a Safe Environment for Children

Context

Carey United Soccer Club (CUSC) is a sporting club forming part of Carey Community Resources Ltd that operates primarily from the Carey Baptist College campus grounds and facilities in Harrisdale.

CUSC is operated by volunteers from the local community who may or may not be connected in some way with Carey Baptist College or other Carey Group entities but because of the common use of the name Carey and the close relationship between the club and the Carey Group entities, it is important that the values, policies and accountability expectations of CUSC are aligned with the Carey Group.

CUSC uses Carey Baptist College's sporting grounds and facilities, not just on weekends for games, but during after school hours for training. Many of CUSC's players and volunteers attend Carey Baptist College and/or are involved in other parts of the Carey Group.

This policy outlines the measures CUSC has in place to ensure the protection of children.

Requirement for Policy

CUSC is committed to operate by the National Principles for a child safe organisation (the National Principles).

CUSC has a range of policies and procedures in place, and a *Codes of Conduct* covering all volunteers to make every effort to ensure that children are kept safe and free from harm insofar as CUSC's activities are concerned.

This policy deals directly with CUSC's duty to provide a safe environment for children.

Policy Statement

CUSC is committed to the protection of children in all circumstances in which we interact.



Children

CUSC operates at the Carey Baptist College Harrisdale campus which also has a childcare centre and a cafe open to the public operating on the same grounds. As such, the entire Carey group of entities has in place very strict measures to protect children and vulnerable people. All Carey Group leaders, employees and volunteers who work with children are required to hold current Working with Children clearance. The Carey group entities abide by and seek to inculcate the National Principles for Child Safe Organisations.

CUSC's activities are aimed at children and young adults. CUSC does not however take on custodial responsibility for the children who participate in the club's activities. The parents of any child or young person who is involved in the activities of the club remain at all times responsible for the supervision of their child and must ensure that the child is appropriately supervised before, during and after any CUSC activity.

CUSC engages young adults to participate as volunteers. This brings CUSC's adult volunteers and young-adult volunteers into close contact with children and young adults, and potentially also into contact with vulnerable individuals. Contact between adults and children is likely in the following contexts:

- During matches held typically on Saturday mornings at Carey Baptist College grounds during the soccer season;
- During training activities typically held on weekday afternoons and early evenings at Carey Baptist College grounds, using Carey Baptist College facilities.

To ensure wherever possible that a safe environment is maintained for children and vulnerable individuals when they are in our care, CUSC has the following measures in place:

- All adult volunteers of Carey United are required to hold a current Western Australian *Working with Children Card unless the volunteer is not entitled to obtain a card as they are exempt;*
- CUSC has *Codes of Conduct* that include general principles that committee members, volunteers with official positions, and all persons working with, or on behalf of, CUSC will need to sign before they are engaged or involved in the program.
- Under no circumstances are CUSC adult volunteers to be left alone with a child, or to be in a closed room alone with a child. At least one other adult volunteer should always be present;
- At all training and matches, all children remain the responsibility of the parent or caregiver, and the CUSC does not accept any duty of care for the participant outside of the accepted duty of care.
- No CUSC committee member or volunteer, in their capacity as committee member or volunteer, is at any time to take responsibility for the transport of a participant in the CUSC's activities who is not their own child. If in the case of an emergency, there is a need to provide transport for a child, the CUSC committee member or volunteer is not to do so without another adult present.



- Any suspected breaches of this policy are to be handled in accordance with CUSC's relevant policies and procedures. They include:
 - CUSC - Policy - Grievance and Complaints;
 - CUSC - Policy - Ongoing Training of Volunteers: Providing a Safe Environment for Children.

Relevant Documents, Policies and Procedures

- Working with Children Checks;
- National Principles for Child-Safe Organisations;
- CUSC: Codes of Conduct;