

Occupational Health and Safety



Uniting Church in Australia
SYNOD OF VICTORIA AND TASMANIA

**Keeping
Children
Safe**



Occupational Health and Safety (OHS) is:

- The prevention of injury and illness in the workplace (including psychological illness).
- The promotion of wellness in the workplace.

In the past it was thought that OHS only related to paid employees and to workplaces such as factories. Legislation and changing social expectations mean OHS can now be found in all workplaces from the factory floor to the modern workplace and workplace arrangements.

The duty of care to volunteers, contractors and the general public is exactly the same as what is required for paid employees.

The Synod office or agencies are workplaces. Church facilities and worship centres are also workplaces as paid employees work from these buildings.

Members of congregations often volunteer and undertake tasks within the programs of the church and members of the public attend church services and programs run by congregations. In all instances OHS is required both legally and ethically to be integrated into all that we do within the Uniting Church.

You can access the OHS manual here:

https://www.victas.uca.org.au/UCA%20Resources/OHS_Docs/Uniting%20Church%20OHS%20Risk%20Mgmt%20Manual.pdf