

Statement of commitment to induction and training



Uniting Church in Australia
SYNOD OF VICTORIA AND TASMANIA

Church Councils and boards/committees of entities should approve this statement of commitment to the induction and training processes needed to develop and maintain a culture of safety.

**Keeping
Children
Safe**



LAST UPDATED 16 January 2018

Name of Congregation: _____

We are committed to ensuring that staff, volunteers, congregational leaders and people in specified ministries¹ are well equipped to create a child safe environment. We will do this by providing an initial induction and ongoing training.

Induction

All staff, volunteers, congregational leaders and people in specified ministries of our entity:

- Will attend an induction session which will introduce the entity's policies for keeping children safe. The induction session will take place within one month of commencement of their employment, voluntary role or placement.
- Are required to sign off that they have read and understood any relevant policies.
- Will hold a current Working With Children Check (Vic and NSW) or Working with Children Registration (Tas). The Synod Working with Children Policy (WWC1) gives further details.

Training

We are committed to providing ongoing training to staff, volunteers, congregational leaders and people in specified ministries in the areas of child abuse awareness, child protection, legal responsibilities, working effectively with children and maintaining appropriate boundaries.

We have a responsibility to provide staff, volunteers, congregational leaders and people in specified ministries with the necessary guidance and support to effectively comply with the Keeping Children Safe Policy. Training will also include skills development regarding the delivery of services or activities in a culturally appropriate manner.

We will be responsive to suggestions by staff, volunteers, congregational leaders and people in specified ministries on the type of training or professional development necessary to fulfil their roles in order to maintain a child safe environment. Supervision and, where applicable, performance reviews will include guidance on expectations relevant to the Keeping Children Safe Policy and identification of any concerning practice or behaviour.

Name of entity: _____

Adopted/approved by: (Board, Council, etc.) _____

Signature: _____

Name: _____ Date _____

¹ The UCA Regulations (2.2) define specified ministries as including Ministers (of the Word and Deacons); Pastors; Lay Pastors; Lay Preachers; Youth Workers and Community Ministers. The ministries of Lay Pastor, Youth Worker and Community Ministers were closed for entry by Assembly on 31 December 2007. Anyone still operating in one of those now-closed ministries is covered by this policy.