



Child Protection Unit
Safeguarding Children and Young People

Catholic Archdiocese of Adelaide

*Safe Environments for All: A Church where God's children can flourish
where all are welcomed, valued and respected*

Risk Assessment Checklist tool for events or activities involving Children and Young people

Purpose:

- To ensure child protection risks are considered and responded to when planning for events and or activities for children and young people.
- To provide best practice guidance for all clergy, religious, employees and volunteers as to what to do to keep children and young people safe before, during and after activities.

Risk Assessment:

When planning for an activity which involves children and young people, this risk assessment must be completed prior to commencement to determine strategies for managing any identified risks which would compromise the safety and wellbeing of children and young people. This checklist tool is to be used in addition to the already completed Catholic Safety Health and Welfare SA Generic Assessment which identifies and addresses hazards relating to the site of the Church environment. It should be reviewed regularly if the activity is ongoing or if there are significant changes to the program details.

This risk assessment checklist tool is to be stored in the parish office and a copy forwarded to the Archdiocesan Child Protection Unit.

Scope:

This checklist is applicable when clergy, religious, employees and volunteers of the Archdiocese of Adelaide are directly responsible for the care and supervision of children or young people. It should be noted that when parents are present with their children, it is the parent who has responsibility for the child or young person.



Catholic Archdiocese of Adelaide, Child Protection Unit
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ACTIVITY:

NAME OF GROUP RUNNING ACTIVITY (IF APPLICABLE):

AGE RANGE OF CHILDREN INVOLVED:

VENUE/S:

PERSON RESPONSIBLE FOR COMPLETING THIS RISK ASSESSMENT CHECK LIST TOOL:

ASSESSING RISK

HAVE YOU CONSIDERED THE FOLLOWING?	Yes	No	If no, please discuss and specify how issue will be addressed
Clergy, religious, employee and volunteer checks			
All clergy, religious, employees and volunteers involved directly with a child or young person have a current working with children check			
All clergy, religious, employees and volunteers involved directly with a child or young person have read and signed the Archdiocesan Code of Conduct			
All clergy, religious, employees and volunteers involved directly with a child or young person are aware of and provided with the Best Practice Guidelines for Interacting with Children and Young People			
All clergy, religious, employees and volunteers involved directly with a child or young person have completed the Safe Environments for Children and Young People training course			
A delegate has been identified as the responsible person for matters relating to the care and protection of children and young people and to receive complaints, feedback or concerns regarding child safety			
Roles and responsibilities have been clearly communicated to all responsible individuals in writing, including clear direction to challenge and report any misconduct with children and young people			



Physical Environment	Yes	No	If no, please discuss and specify how issue will be addressed
The venue/location ensures appropriate oversight of children and young people during the activity or event			
The environment is welcoming and supportive to children and young people, ensuring there is no visible material that could be inappropriate, offensive or upsetting for children			
Amenities and purpose for rooms are clearly signposted			
Systems are in place to record attendance of children and young people at all activities/events, including leaders and if a parent/caregiver is present. Documentation is accurately maintained			
Communication	Yes	No	If no, please discuss and specify how issue will be addressed
Parents/Caregivers have been provided with a program outline and/or itinerary for the activity or event which details purpose and identified movements			
Parent/Caregiver consent has been obtained, with specific permission for transport, medical attention, emergency contacts, photographs and any specific activities that may present particular physical or emotional risk to participants			
All Clergy, religious, employees and volunteers have been made aware of their responsibilities to maintain an environment which prevents the risk of harm and promotes the safety and wellbeing of children and young people			
Behavioural expectations for both adults and children and young people have been made clear to children, young people and caregivers			
Children, young people and families have been informed that children and young people have a right to be safe, feel safe and encouraged to speak if they feel uncomfortable			
Name/s and contact details of delegates who are available for children, young people and caregivers to contact with concerns, complaints or feedback (see above) have been communicated to children, young people and families			
Supervision and adult/child ratios	Yes	No	If no, please discuss and specify how issue will be addressed
Clergy, religious, employees and volunteers will not be alone (one to one) with a child or young person unless absolutely necessary. In circumstances where this			



is necessary parental consent will be sought and another responsible adult informed of the purpose of this contact			
There will be a minimum of two adults with any group of children and young people at all times to ensure adequate supervision			
The age, ability, skills, development and needs of all children and young people should be taken into consideration when determining the level of supervision required.			
Physical Arrangements	Yes	No	If no, please discuss and specify how issue will be addressed
Appropriate arrangements have been made for any activities involving changing clothes e.g. swimming. Same gender adults to supervise changing if assessed as necessary to ensure the protection of younger children.			
Children/young people have space to change privately.			
Appropriate arrangements have been made for sleeping, which includes all responsible adults and/or leaders sleeping in separate rooms with separate bedding from children.			
Ensure the sleeping arrangement allows for monitoring where there is younger children, with no less than two approved leaders where they can seek support/help if needed.			
Adult leaders supervising children and young people in overnight sleeping arrangements are to be of the same gender as the children they are supervising			
Work Health and Safety Generic Risk Assessment	Yes	No	If no, please discuss and specify how issue will be addressed
An up to date generic Catholic Safety Health and Welfare SA (CHS&W SA) 'Risk Assessment' has been completed for the site of the Church environment to assist in the identification and management of hazards that may impact on everyone's health and safety. The 'Risk Assessment template' can be located on the CSH&W SA website www.cshwsa.org.au under Risk Management>Risk Assessments			
Have all risks identified in this document been addressed? If not please contact the Archdiocesan Child Protection Unit to discuss and develop a plan to minimise risk for children and young people			

If you are unsure about how to address any of these requirements, please contact the Archdiocesan Child Protection Unit on ph. 8210 8159 for support and advice or additional resources.



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