

# SAFETY IS NOT JUST FOR CHILDREN

*Creating a safe place for children to play and learn should be a priority for all children's services and there are many fantastic resources available to parents and educators to help keep children safe.*

But what about the people that work with children?

Many people working in preschools and childcare centres across Australia are seriously injured every year. Most of these are musculoskeletal injuries (sprains and strains, fractures and soft tissue injuries) caused by everyday activities like moving play equipment, lifting children and sitting on small chairs.

ELAA has developed a website to support Occupational Health and Safety (OHS)

for early childhood service providers and employees. The website provides practical guidance specifically for early childhood services. This information is aimed at preventing injury and illness to employees, contractors, visitors, parents, children and the general public who enter a service. It has comprehensive information to help organisations comply with health and safety laws and assist early childhood services to manage their safety needs.

There are a number of resources available for free download including:

#### **OHS Purchasing Guidelines**

The OHS Purchasing Guidelines provide a framework that assists services and their employees to consider the adverse impact on health and safety that may occur

if unsuitable furniture, equipment or substances are purchased. The associated fact sheets provide specific advice on purchasing equipment for your service.

#### **6 common hazards training videos**

These 6 videos provide practical advice for staff working in services. The videos demonstrate a variety of techniques to avoid common hazards.

#### **Hazard tip sheets**

This series of tip sheets provide information on identifying and avoiding hazards specific to the early childhood sector.

#### **Templates and guidelines**

Available for download in Word documents, these templates and guidelines can be adapted for use in services. These have been sourced from the ELAA Early Childhood Management Manual.

Visit the website [www.ohsecservices.org.au](http://www.ohsecservices.org.au) for more information and to download your free OHS resources.

## Work Health & Safety in early childhood services

**Early Learning Association Australia has a fantastic website with all the information early childhood services need to keep staff safe at work.**

The website offers free resources to help organisations manage their OHS needs. This information is aimed at preventing injury and illness to employees, contractors, visitors, parents, children and the general public who enter a service.



[www.ohsinecservices.org.au](http://www.ohsinecservices.org.au)

