

Service Code of Conduct and Values

All services should have a Code of Conduct and may also have a values statement that outlines or describes behaviours expected in the workplace. These documents should be made available to employees and incorporated into the Employee Management and Development process.

A number of organisations have developed codes and standards. Below are links to some of these that may be helpful.

ECA's Code of Ethics

Early Childhood Australia (ECA) have developed a Code of Ethics for early childhood professionals. It is widely accepted as the industry benchmark.

“As an aspirational document, it does provide a basis for critical reflection, a guide for professional behaviour, and principles to inform individual and collective decision making.”

A copy of ECA's *Code of Ethics* can be accessed at: <http://www.earlychildhoodaustralia.org.au>

VIT Code of Conduct – applies to all early childhood teachers registered with the VIT

The Victorian Institute of Teaching (VIT) has developed a Code of Conduct that sets out principles describing professional conduct, personal conduct and professional competence expected of an educator by their colleagues and the community. The code is to promote the values that educators see as underpinning their profession, to guide them in their everyday conduct and to assist them to solve ethical dilemmas.

The code can be accessed at: <http://www.vit.vic.edu.au>

AITSL's Australian Professional Standards for Teachers

The Australian Institute of Teaching and School Leadership (AITSL) has developed the Australian Professional Standards for Teachers, which is comprised of seven standards that outline what teachers should know and be able to do. It is a public statement of what constitutes teacher quality.

The standards can be accessed at: <http://www.teacherstandards.aitsl.edu.au>

Child Safe Standards

Organisations that provide services or facilities for children must implement Child Safe Standards to protect them from abuse. Child Safe Standards aim to promote the safety of children; prevent child abuse and ensure organisations and businesses have effective processes in place to respond to and report all allegations of child abuse.

Child Safe Standards work by providing a minimum standard of child safety across all organisations. They drive changes in organisational culture to embedding child safety in everyday thinking and practice, highlighting that everyone has a role to keep children safe from abuse.

The Child Safe Standards can be accessed at: <https://ccyp.vic.gov.au/>

