## Video Two – Standard One

### Slide one

Welcome to the Victorian Child Safe Standards Faith Communities Online Training Portal.

### Slide two

In this training video we will be looking at Standard 1: strategies to embed an organisational culture of child safety, including through effective leadership arrangements.

### Slide three

The Child Safe Standards ensure that there is a minimum standard for safety in all organisations providing services to children.

The standards aim to drive cultural change in organisations so that protecting children from abuse is embedded in everyday thinking and practice. Protecting children from abuse will be the foundation of daily life.

### Slide four

Standard 1 – strategies to embed an organisational culture of child safety, including through effective leadership arrangements.

Creating a culture of child safety within your organisation is vital to lowering the risk of harm to children. It is important to build a strong culture of child safety within your Faith Community.

There should be a high expectation that everyone in your organisation is committed to child safety.

This needs to be led from the top down, embedding a culture that makes child safety of extreme importance.

It is also important to apply strong governance arrangements, documenting how your duty of care responsibilities to children will be met.

### Slide five

Make child safety a top priority in your organisation’s operations.

Take a zero tolerance approach to child abuse through how you communicate the importance of the safety of children.

It is always important to respect and embrace and support the diversity of children.

### Slide Six

Next steps for standard 1:

Review your organisation’s existing policies and practices.

Think about your organisation’s risk management plans.

Think about the diverse needs of children.

### Slide Seven

Invite children to contribute to the safety process. Ask them to sit in on your meeting or complete a survey.

Invite staff and volunteers to contribute and be proactive in reducing risk. An example of how this can be done is by asking questions in program meetings of how the Faith Community is reducing risk to children.

It is important to realise that this is not a one off event so set dates for future reviews of your child safety policies and procedures. By setting a date you are showing your staff and volunteers that this is of high importance and you can be sure that review will occur.

### Slide eight

How can your Faith Community meet the Child Safe Standards?

First, child safety is promoted though the Faith Community and modelled by the leadership and, that clear knowledge of steps to be taken with any areas of concern regarding child safety and awareness of child abuse are available and implemented.

### Slide nine

A culture of inclusivity exists highlighting any specific need for people of cultural and or linguistic diverse background, people of aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander background, people with a disability or any other specific group that relates to your Faith Community.

### Slide ten

Ensure that practices are in place to continue to build a safe and supportive environment to raise child safety concerns.

Have appropriate Faith Community governance arrangements in place.

Undertake awareness training for all board, staff and volunteers.

Have a Child Safe Standards Representative who is trained and supported and can assist your Faith Community in meeting the child safety needs that arise.

### Slide eleven

Available via the Commission for Children and Young People’s website is a child safety review checklist and action plan.

This may be a great first step for you and your Faith Community to start with.

### Slide twelve

There is also available in the downloadable toolkit, a Faith Community self review tool which has some information specific to Faith Communities and language in a helpful tone to assist you in determining where you are in relation to the Child Safe Standards.

We encourage you to use these tools on a regular basis to determine how you are tracking as a Child Safe organisation.

### Slide thirteen

Remember, nothing in the Victorian Child Safe Standards change the responsibility to report child abuse to police.

For the purposes of the Child Safe Standards, “Children” are anyone younger than 18 years old.

And, this is not a one off exercise. You need to continually improve your community’s response to creating a Child Safe environment.

### Slide fourteen

Call the police on 000 if you have immediate concerns for a child’s safety or if you believe child abuse may have occurred.

And investigations of any matter by police must always take priority over internal investigations.

### Slide fifteen

For further information about the Victorian Child Safe Standards, for Faith Communities, you can visit [www.childsafestandsards.org.au](http://www.childsafestandsards.org.au)

Email [vcc@vcc.org.au](mailto:vcc@vcc.org.au)

Or call on 03 9650 4511

For general Child Safe Standards information, contact the Commission for Children and Young People.

Visit [www.ccyp.vic.gov.au](http://www.ccyp.vic.gov.au)/childsafestandards

email them on [childsafestandards@ccyp.vic.gov.au](mailto:childsafestandards@ccyp.vic.gov.au)

Or call the Child Safe Standards hotline on 03 8601 5281

Thank you for watching this video regarding the Victorian Child Safe Standards.

We hope that this has been of assistance to you and your Faith Community in providing a Child Safe environment.