

Keeping Safe: Child Protection Curriculum



The Keeping Safe: Child Protection Curriculum (KS:CPC) is an evidence-based child safety and respectful relationships curriculum for children and young people from age 3 to year 12. The KS:CPC empowers learners to recognise and report abuse, seek support from trusted people, and develop skills to keep themselves safe.

With a world leading reputation, the KS:CPC is highly sought and regarded nationally and internationally for its depth of content, breadth of learning and contemporary nature. Over 1,600 Australian education sites, 51 international schools across 37 countries use the KS:CPC under licence agreement. The KS:CPC is accessible to over 500,000 children and young people.

Background and development

The KS:CPC was developed by the South Australian Department for Education in 2003–2007. In 2008, the curriculum was mandated in all government preschools and schools. The KS:CPC is also mandated in Catholic Education South Australia schools.

An extensive consultation process involved child protection experts and experienced educators from schools and preschools, including the late Emeritus Professor Freda Briggs – an internationally renowned leader in child protection from the University of South Australia (UniSA), Professor Kenneth Rigby and Professor Dr Barbara Spears (UniSA), and Professor Philip Slee (Flinders University).

In 2013/14 the KS:CPC was reviewed and updated to align with the Australian Curriculum and relevant pedagogy, to reflect current research and to strengthen contemporary issues such as online safety and bullying.

In 2017 the second edition was released to provide a more user-friendly format and to strengthen content on domestic violence, problematic sexual behaviour, and gender equity.

In 2018 the global edition was developed to provide a broader context for educators outside of South Australia, both nationally and internationally.

In 2021 the revised second edition was released to align with relevant policies, frameworks, guidelines and documents and to include new resources, language and general information for educators. Consent and online safety topics were reviewed to strengthen concepts at an age and developmentally appropriate level.

Overview

Aims

The KS:CPC teaches children and young people age 3 to year 12, in an age-appropriate way, to:

- recognise abuse and tell a trusted adult
- understand what is appropriate and inappropriate touching
- understand ways of keeping themselves safe.

Themes

The KS:CPC is predicated on two main themes which are presented through developmentally appropriate activities:

- We all have the right to be safe
- We can help ourselves to be safe by talking to people we trust.



Focus Areas

The two themes are explored through four Focus Areas, which are examined in growing complexity:

- Focus Area 1: The right to be safe
- Focus Area 2: Relationships
- Focus Area 3: Recognising and reporting abuse
- Focus Area 4: Protective strategies

Documents

There are 5 year level documents:

- Early Years: Ages 3-5
- Early Years: Years R-2
- Primary Years: Years 3-5
- Middle Years: Years 6-9
- Senior Years: Years 10-12



There are 6 support materials:

- Aboriginal children and young people
- Culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds
- Disability and additional needs
- Anangu resources: Early Years, Primary Years and Secondary Years.

