

Policy 9

CHILDSAFE POLICY

Policy Purpose

To provide a safe environment and relationships for children and youth, and to provide guidelines and accountability for staff and volunteers working with children and youth programs.

Policy Statement

1. The Blackwood Church of Christ inc is committed to providing a safe and healthy environment for children and youth. The commitment extends to all children and youth who participate in programs and activities organised by Blackwood Church of Christ inc team leaders of children's and youth programs and activities.
2. The Blackwood Church of Christ inc is registered with the *ChildSafe Risk Management System* designed by Scripture Union Australia. This site is further overseen by the State Board of Churches of Christ Childsafe Risk Management System.
3. The Blackwood Church of Christ inc will identify a person who will undertake the roles and responsibilities of Childsafe Coordinator as required by the *ChildSafe Risk Management System*
4. The Blackwood Church of Christ inc Childsafe Coordinator is responsible for ensuring that obligations under the *ChildSafe Risk Management System* are complied with.
5. The Blackwood Church of Christ inc Childsafe Coordinator will ensure that staff and volunteers working with children as defined by the *ChildSafe Risk Management System*, have received the appropriate training, and are aware of their obligations under the *ChildSafe Risk Management System*.
6. All Blackwood Church of Christ inc programs for children and youth will be lead by a Team Leader who has successfully been trained as such under the *ChildSafe Risk Management System*.
7. All Blackwood Church of Christ inc volunteers and staff regularly responsible for the implementation of programs for children and youth will be successfully trained as a Team Member under the *ChildSafe Risk Management System*, or other approved equivalent childsafe training.

8. In the case of child protection matters, and critical incidents, the Blackwood Church of Christ inc Childsafe coordinator will contact the Emergency Response Coordinator, who is appointed by the State Board. The Emergency Response Coordinator will intervene as necessary.

Policy References

- Scripture Union Australia Childsafe Risk Management System
- Churches of Christ Childsafe Risk Management System.
- Policy 2 Bushfire Protection
- Policy 3 Work Health and Safety
- Policy 7 Critical Incident Management Plan
- Policy 8 Alcohol and Drugs on Premises

Review of Policy

This policy shall be reviewed every two years or as required

Further Information

If you require further information, contact the Church Office

Authorised by:

(Chair of Elders)

Signature: **Date:**