



Annual Child Safety Statement 2022-23

Our commitment

The National Blood Authority (NBA) is committed to implementing the National Principles for Child Safe Organisations and the Commonwealth Child Safe Framework (the Framework).

Interaction with children

NBA staff and contractors do not generally interact with children in the ordinary course of their employment with the NBA.

The NBA manages and coordinates arrangements for the supply of blood, blood products and blood services on behalf of all Australian governments in accordance with the National Blood Agreement.

The primary policy objectives of the National Blood Agreement are to:

- provide an adequate, safe, secure, and affordable supply of blood products, blood related products and blood related services in Australia and
- promote the safe, high-quality management and use of blood products, blood related products and blood related services in Australia.

NBA staff and contractors may have direct contact with children in the following circumstances:

- Parents occasionally bring children and young people on agency premises for short periods while working.
- Agency endorsed events, stalls, exhibitions, and stakeholder engagements where children may visit agency stands, displays and booths or be present.
- Engagement with funded third parties through grant processes.
- Presentations to stakeholder groups may occasionally include children.
- External team building and social events where children may visit.

Risk Assessment

We completed a Commonwealth Child Safe Framework risk assessment and determined the risks to child safety is low because of the nature of NBA operations. The NBA has minimal interaction with children. There is some risk associated with the lack of awareness of child safety requirements by NBA staff, contractors and funded third parties which is being mitigated through mandatory e-learning and further work in 2023-24 as outlined below.

Compliance with the Framework and future improvements

The NBA is committed to exercising continuous efforts to be a child safe organisation through implementation of the Framework. The NBA was not fully compliant with all aspects of the Framework in 2022.

To ensure full compliance with the Framework the NBA will undertake the following child safety measures and activities in 2023-24:

- develop a new child safety policy that is in line with the Framework and ensures that the NBA embeds the National Principles for Child Safe Organisations
- establish an appropriate staff education and training program to ensure familiarity with the NBA's child safety policy and the Framework, including the National Principles
- embed regular review of child safety risk within the NBA's broader risk program
- review our child safety requirements for funded third parties.

Initiatives undertaken during 2022-23

The NBA mandated Commonwealth Child Safety Framework online training for all staff.

John Cahill

Chief Executive