

Standard 7:

Strategies to promote the participation and empowerment of children

This Means:

Supporting children and young people to understand their rights, contribute to child safety planning and to raise concerns by:

- Valuing and respecting children's opinions
- Encouraging children's participation in decision making
- Establishing an environment of trust and inclusion that enables children to ask questions and speak up if they are worried or feeling unsafe.

Examples:

- Provide children with child-appropriate and accessible information about what child abuse, their rights and how they can raise any concerns
- Provide opportunities for children to provide suggestions and thoughts on what child safety means to them through a range of methods. This could include email, suggestion boxes, feedback sessions
- Engage a Junior Committee as part of your organisations commitment to empower children to have a voice in your organisation. More information about Junior Netball committees can be found on the link below.

<https://vic.netball.com.au/sites/vic/files/2020-05/Junior%20Committee%20Scope%20Template.docx>

- Ensure staff and volunteers receive training on how to engage and empower children on this issue.



"You can have all the right policies and procedures in place, but if kids don't feel they can speak up and know they'll be listened to when they do, then those policies and procedures mean nothing."

Liana Buchanan, Principal Commissioner for Children and Young People.