

KEY ACTION AREA 10.4:

Leaders champion and model compliance with policies and procedures.

OVERVIEW

It is important for your SSA leaders to champion and model compliance with child safety and wellbeing policies and procedures. This will encourage others to follow and implement those policies and procedures ([see National Principle 9 resources](#)), which in turn will create safer environments for children and young people.

Your SSA leaders need to put the best interests of children and young people first at all times, and this needs to be communicated across the organisation and highlighted so that everyone is aware that this is occurring. Children and young people are likely to feel more respected and valued as a result of this approach, which will increase their understanding of their rights and safety within your SSA.

Building a culture in which everyone is aware of how they can speak up and raise concerns, and feel safe to do so, is essential. An important step towards this is to have leaders in your SSA supporting people to safely disclose concerns they may have about the safety of children or young people and being responsive to those concerns ([see National Principle 6 resources](#)).

Making people within your SSA feel that their voices are heard on day-to-day matters will mean they are more likely to consider sharing sensitive information such as a disclosure or suspicion of abuse. To demonstrate this culture, it is essential that your SSA leaders are open and responsive to general suggestions and complaints.



EXAMPLE SSA ACTIONS TO WORK TOWARDS IMPLEMENTING KEY ACTION AREA 10.4	Leaders within the SSA raise awareness of the need to comply with child safety policies and procedures, while demonstrating their own compliance and encouraging staff and volunteers to follow suit.
	Leaders within the SSA put the best interests of children and young people first at all times.
	Leaders within the SSA are open and responsive to suggestions and complaint handling, and support anyone to safely disclose any concerns they may have.

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If you need support:

- > [Mental health community links](#)
- > [Reporting flowchart](#)

