

KEY ACTION AREA 2.1:

Children and young people are informed about all of their rights, including to safety, information and participation.

OVERVIEW

It is important for children and young people to be informed about all their rights within your SSA.

If your SSA encourages and enables a culture of transparency and informed decision making, it will increase the safety and wellbeing of children and young people. For example, if children and young people are informed about your SSA's expectations for what is appropriate behaviour and what is not, they are more likely to speak up if they witness or experience others demonstrating inappropriate behaviour.

There are many ways your SSA can inform children and young people about their rights, including by having them participate in the design and development of child-friendly versions of your child safety and wellbeing policies and procedures. This process itself will assist in informing children and young people about SSA rules and expectations. These resources should also be regularly promoted to keep children and young people informed.

It is vital to seek the opinion of children and young people for a range of reasons including:

- The views and suggestions of children and young people can genuinely add significant value to how your SSA operates and continuously improves. Your SSA can be innovative about how to regularly seek feedback from children and young people (for example through activities, discussions, surveys etc), as well as identifying what questions to ask children and young people to assist continual improvement. For example, asking children and young people the following questions:
 - > what do they like about your sport?
 - > what could be improved?
 - > what don't they like?
- By creating opportunities for children and young people to provide their suggestions and feedback about your SSA, you are working towards creating a positive culture where children and young people feel comfortable to 'speak up' about how they are feeling. If children and young people feel confident and supported to share their thoughts on day-to-day matters – such as strategies or tactics for a match or game – they are more likely to feel comfortable to speak up if they have a sensitive child safety concern.



EXAMPLE SSA ACTIONS TO WORK TOWARDS IMPLEMENTING KEY ACTION AREA 2.1	<p>SSA staff and volunteers talk to children and young people about:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• their right to feel safe• the steps the SSA takes to help keep them safe• the rules of the SSA• who to talk to and how to speak up if something is worrying them• what to do if someone they know is being hurt or is at risk of harm.
	<p>Seek the views of children and young people through discussions, activities and surveys on how things could be better, what they like/don't like and what makes them feel safe/unsafe when participating in the sport.</p>
	<p>Seek ideas and views of children and young people to contribute to the design/development of child-friendly versions of policies and procedures.</p>

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If you need support:

> [Mental health community links](#)

> [Reporting flowchart](#)

