

## KEY ACTION AREA 8.1:

Staff and volunteers identify and mitigate risks in the online and physical environments, without compromising a child's right to privacy, access to information, social connections and learning opportunities.

## OVERVIEW

It is important for your SSA staff and volunteers to identify and mitigate risks in the online and physical environment without compromising a child or young person's right to privacy, access to information, social connections and learning opportunities.

As a starting point, your SSA needs to identify its highest risk settings for children and young people. This may include physical environments that are closed or segregated (such as overnight camps or inclusion programs) and online platforms to which children and young people have access (such as messaging groups or Facebook pages).

Your SSA is likely to have a variety of settings where children and young people participate, including:

### PHYSICAL ENVIRONMENT

- Coaching or official training
- Overnight camps
- Interstate travel
- Country week
- Inclusion programs
- Talent identification programs and initiatives
- Talented children and young people playing in senior teams (alongside adults)
- Internships
- Children and young people advisory groups.

### ONLINE ENVIRONMENT

- Messaging platforms
- Social media platforms.



# FACT SHEET 8.1

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Once these settings have been identified, the safety considerations for each risk need to be outlined, documented and then implemented ([see Fact Sheet 1.5](#)).

There also needs to be guidelines in place for SSA staff and volunteers about behavioural expectations to reduce risk for children and young people during activities such as toileting, showering and changing clothes. Inappropriate or harmful contact (physical or online) between children and young people should also be covered in the guidelines ([see Fact Sheet 1.4](#) and [Fact Sheet 7.2](#)).

For further information about understanding harmful sexual behaviour between children and young people, the Department of Communities has information, resources and links available [here](#).



<b>EXAMPLE SSA ACTIONS TO WORK TOWARDS IMPLEMENTING KEY ACTION AREA 8.1</b>	Particular attention is given to the safety and diverse needs of children and young people in closed or segregated environments, such as overnight camps or inclusion programs.
	Guidelines are in place to reduce risk between adults and children and young people during activities such as toileting, showering and changing clothes, and in online environments. The risk of inappropriate or harmful contact between children and young people must also be considered.

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If you need support:

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

