

Rotary Club of Warrnambool East Inc.

Working with Children

In light of the recent introduction of the Victorian Government “Child Safe Standards” for Clubs providing services to children please find below some guidelines for working with children.

Definition: A child is a person under the age of 18.

Contact with Children

In the normal course of events our Rotary Club does not specifically provide services to children however we may come in contact with children in a number of different ways:

1. Helpers
 - a. Children helping at an event(Rotary Exchange Students, Work Experience)
 - b. Children accompanying parents or guardians rostered on to assist.
 - c. Children who offer to assist for example at HIO assisting with ball pick up.
2. Customers – Children purchasing a service from us (sausage or HIO) both in the company of parents and unsupervised.
3. Spectators/Families – Children present at activities (events, community service).

Working with Children Check

It is expected that where a child is known to be helping (rostered on as in 1a) that at least one member rostered on will have a working with children check. While the child can work with any of the volunteers – the member with the WWCC must be present to supervise at all times.

For all other categories there is no expectation that any Rotary volunteer has a working with children check (at this stage).

Rotarians who register for Working with Children Check Cards should ensure they list RC of Warrnambool East as one of the organisations they volunteer for. The club will keep a list of all those members including Card no. and expiry date.

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Code of Conduct Guidelines

In dealing with children (all categories above) the safety of the child should be a focus of Rotarians and authorised helpers.

No Rotarian or authorised helper shall:

1. Be alone with a child unnecessarily and for more than a very short time (for example, children picking up golf balls should remain where they can be seen – not in the scrub);
2. Initiate unnecessary physical contact with a child (for example Rotarians offering instructions on golf do not need to make physical contact with children) ;
3. Use inappropriate language in the presence of children; (for example do not swear).
4. Engage in open discussions of a mature or adult nature in the presence of children; (for example refrain from telling adult jokes).
5. Shame, humiliate, oppress, belittle or degrade children; (for example children should not be yelled at unless it is a matter of safety)
6. Arrange contact, including online contact, with children outside of the organisation's programs and activities;
7. Photograph or video a child without the consent of the child **and** his/her parents or guardians;
8. Do anything in contravention of the organisation's policies, procedures or this Code of Conduct.