

# ENGAGE

EQUIPPING GOD'S PEOPLE TO ENGAGE WITH, HANDLE AND TEACH GOD'S WORD

## CHILD SAFE POLICY

VERSION: 1.2  
EFFECTIVE DATE: 30 August 2023

## VERSION RELEASE HISTORY

Version	Effective date	Summary of changes
1.2	30 Aug 2023	Rebranding Update of scope to align with childminding service availability
1.1	28 Sep 2022	Adding clarity to the definition of 'Child'
1.0	03 Nov 2021	Initial version

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**1. INTRODUCTION**

**1.1. Purpose and scope**

This policy sets out our commitment to the safety and well-being of children during their time under our care at the Engage conference.

This policy applies to all instances where childminding services are offered by Engage. While childminding services are not provided during the conference, this policy serves as a proactive measure to outline the safety practices that will be implemented when childminding activities resume.

**1.2. Related documents**

**Table 1 Related policies and forms**

Title
Code of Conduct
Child Safety Procedures

## 2. CHILD SAFE POLICY

Engage is committed to child safety and wants all children in childminding during the conference to be safe.

In accordance with the law of Victoria, the words 'children' and 'child' includes all people aged under 18 years of age.

Engage believes that each child in childminding is an image-bearer of God and Engage supports and respects all children.

Engage is committed to the safety, participation and empowerment of all children in childminding to speak up about their safety, when participating in Engage.

We have zero tolerance of child abuse and all allegations and safety concerns will be treated very seriously and consistently in accordance with this policy, the Engage Code of Conduct and our child safety procedures.

All allegations and concerns about children will be reported to the appropriate external authorities, in accordance with our legal and moral obligations.

Engage is committed to preventing child abuse and identifying risks early, and removing and reducing these risks using clear, documented, risk management measures.

Engage only engages volunteers to work with children in childminding who:

- (a) have been screened for their suitability by Engage
- (b) have a current Working With Children Check
- (c) have completed child safety training with their own church or denomination

Engage is committed to providing a welcoming, safe and inclusive environment for all children in childminding, including Aboriginal children, children from culturally and/or linguistically diverse backgrounds, children with disabilities and children with diverse needs.

Engage has zero tolerance for racism and any instances of racism will be addressed with appropriate consequences.

Engage is guided by the biblical approach in Galatians 3:28 – “all are one in Christ Jesus”. Engage recognises the uniqueness of each child as a person made in the image of God, with unique attributes, including unique cultural and linguistic backgrounds and abilities, that are safely expressed and lived out within the unity of the Church in Christ Jesus. In this way, Engage pays particular attention to the diverse needs of children.

Engage has specific child safety procedures in place that support the Engage Committee and all volunteers working with children at the Engage Conference.