

Working with Children Check

It is a requirement for all Volunteers, Parent Helpers, Contractors and Service Providers to hold a current Working with Children Check and a copy supplied to the school.

Please go to website listed below to apply for your Working with Children Check.

<http://www.workingwithchildren.vic.gov.au>



Working with
Children Check



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Purpose

The Working with Children Check (Check) helps protect children from physical and sexual harm. It does this by screening people's criminal records and professional conduct, and by preventing those who pose an unjustifiable risk to children from working with or caring for them.

Passing a Check is a legal requirement for everyone in Victoria doing paid or voluntary **child-related work** who doesn't qualify for an exemption. The Check does not seek to regulate the private relationships of family and friends – only the contact a child has with someone doing child-related work.

The Check is just a starting point. The Check does not assess a person's suitability to work with or care for children in a particular role. It is the responsibility of organisations to assess paid and voluntary workers' suitability to work with children and to establish sound, ongoing supervision practices so that children are safe from harm. For more information go to [Commission for Children and Young People](#).

The *Working with Children Act 2005* (the Act) creates special obligations for ministers of religion. All ministers of religion are required to get a Check unless the contact they have with children is only occasional and always incidental to their work.

Child-related work for ministers is defined more broadly than for everyone else. For ministers, child-related work is not limited to work involving unsupervised, direct contact with children. By law, any contact with children, unless it is only occasional and incidental, is enough to require the minister to get a Check. This includes ministers, regardless of whether their contact with children is supervised or not, who visit schools, children's camps or have children present in their congregation.

The Act exempts a range of people from the Check including teachers registered with the Victorian Institute of Teaching (VIT) as teachers have already been screened. The exemptions are designed to reduce the administrative burden particularly on voluntary organisations using the Check.

For details, go to [Exemptions](#).



Top Tips

- Applying for a Check? Fill out the form online then lodge it at Australia Post
- Understanding your organisation's obligations about child-related work
- Did you know that the Police Check is quite different from the WWC Check?
- Got a question? Our FAQs will help you find the answer.
- Have our eNewsletter with news and tips delivered straight to your Inbox.

Benefits of the Check

Who needs a Check?

How do I apply?