

Girl Guides Australia is

CHILD SAFE CHILD FRIENDLY

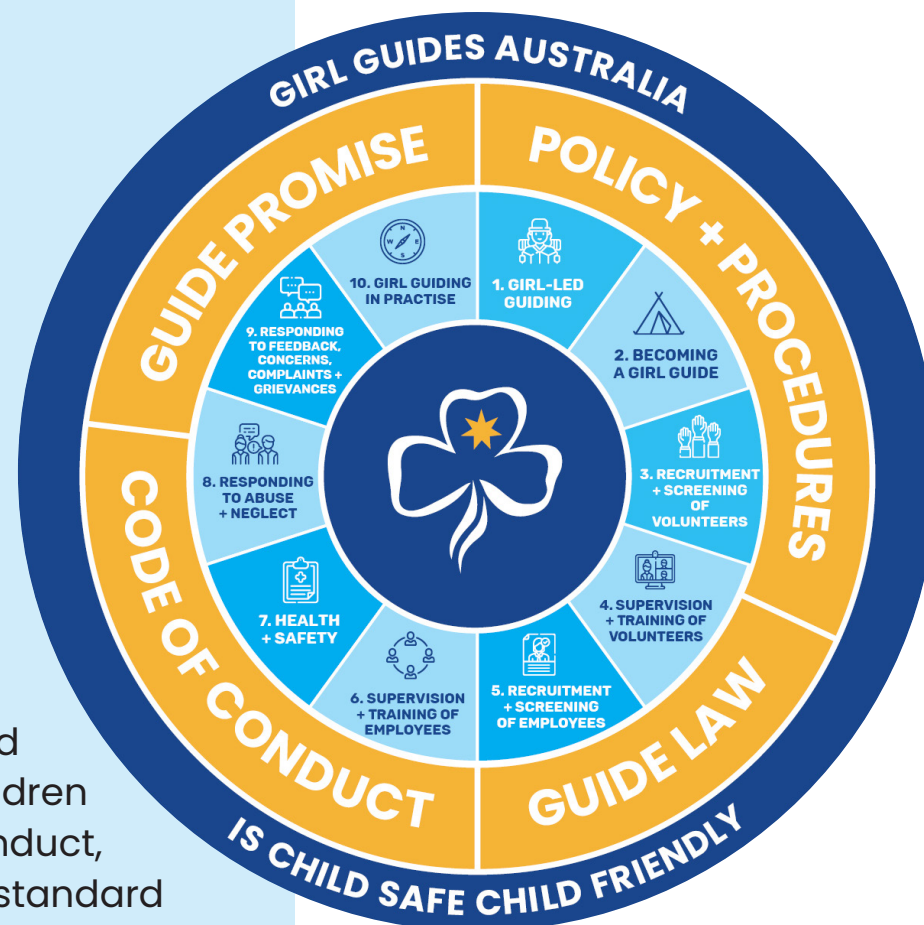
A Parent/Carer Resource

The Girl Guides Australia Child Safe Child Friendly Framework is a suite of policies, procedures and guidelines which act as a protective barrier around our Guides.

In practice it means that all ongoing volunteers are checked and trained including reference checking, Working with Children and Police Checks and Child Safe Training. Our Code of Conduct, as well as the Girl Guide Promise and Law, set an expected standard of behaviour for all Adults in Guiding.

In addition, risk assessments must always be completed and supervision ratios met, whenever Guides undertake any activities away from their normal meeting place. There will always be at least two adults present—one being a qualified Leader—at unit meetings, during online activities or during outdoor and adventure-based activities.

The Guiding program itself helps Guides develop their voice and encourages them to speak up for themselves and others. Our specific Child Safe activities empower Guides to keep themselves safe.



We have ZERO TOLERANCE
of child harm, abuse
and neglect.

What you can expect from Girl Guides

OVERNIGHT STAYS

e.g: sleepovers, camps

- At least two adults supervise including one qualified leader.
(three adults for younger Guides)
- Guides develop Camp Rules with Leaders to set behaviour expectations
- Guides and adults do not share sleeping facilities
- All Adults attend a child safety briefing
- Risk assessments are undertaken and approved

UNIT MEETINGS

- At least two adults supervise including one qualified leader
- Guides and Leaders renew Unit Rules frequently to set behaviour expectations of all Guides and adults
- Activities are girl-led
- Guides learn to use their voice and speak their minds
- Child Safe Child Friendly-specific activities reinforce Guides' rights to safety, empower them to say 'No' and seek help if needed

OUTDOOR & ADVENTURE ACTIVITIES

e.g: canoeing, abseiling

- At least two adults supervise including one qualified leader (ratio is adjusted for some activities and groups needing more support)
- Leaders and instructors must meet first aid, lifesaving and other specialist skill requirements
- Risk assessments are undertaken and approved

PUBLIC ACTIVITIES

e.g. Clean Up Australia Day:

- Guides and Leaders wear uniform
- At least two adults supervise including one qualified leader
- Guides stay in groups ('buddy system' or Patrol system)
- Guides stay in sight of supervising adults
- Risk assessments are undertaken and approved

ONLINE ACTIVITIES

e.g. JOTA/JOTI:

- At least two adults supervise including one qualified leader
- No private chatrooms are used
- Guides are reminded to never share personal details
- Leaders closely supervise Guides and are responsible of their safety and wellbeing while online
- Risk assessments are undertaken and approved

WE'RE CONTINUALLY IMPROVING

- We're continually looking to update our Child Safe Child Friendly training for our volunteers and paid staff.
- Our Reconciliation Action Plan charges us with improving our cultural sensitivity and safety practices.
- We are investigating new ways for Guides' voices to be included in the revision of our Child Safe Child Friendly policies and practices.
- We are developing new ways for younger Guides to seek help if needed.
- We are looking into ways we can increase and tailor our support for neurodivergent Guides.