

# Equal Opportunity Act 2010 (Vic)

Victoria's Child Safe Standards with the National Principles for Child Safe Organisations and the National Catholic Safeguarding Standards require organisations working with children and young people to explicitly consider the safety of:

- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children and young people
- children from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds
- children with a disability
- children with diverse sexuality and orientation.

This requirement stems from the unique vulnerability of these groups to discrimination, abuse and violence.

In addition, the *Equal Opportunity Act 2010 (Vic)* serves to protect people from discrimination. Discrimination can occur when a person is treated unfavourably because of a personal characteristic that is protected by law (e.g. sex, disability, gender identity, sexual orientation, race and religious belief or activity).

Positive wellbeing and safety outcomes for children and young people are promoted when organisations create an equitable environment for children and young people, where respect and acceptance are modelled.

## USEFUL RESOURCES

Victorian Equal Opportunity & Human Rights Commission.

[www.humanrightscommission.vic.gov.au/discrimination](http://www.humanrightscommission.vic.gov.au/discrimination)

*Equal Opportunity Act 2010 (Vic)*.

[www9.austlii.edu.au/cgi-bin/viewdb/au/legis/vic/consol\\_act/ea2010250](http://www9.austlii.edu.au/cgi-bin/viewdb/au/legis/vic/consol_act/ea2010250)



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*The Archdiocese is committed to the safety, wellbeing and dignity  
of all children, young people and vulnerable adults.*