

# National Framework for Protecting Australia's Children

2009 –

URL: <https://www.dss.gov.au/our-responsibilities/families-and-children/programs-services/protecting-australias-children#:~:text=The%20National%20Framework%20outlines%20an,a%20series%20of%20action%20plans>

## Details

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The National Framework for Protecting Australia's Children was endorsed by the Council of Australian Governments in April 2009. It sets out a plan to ensure the safety and well being of Australian children and to reduce levels of abuse and neglect. It is a long term project with a finish date in 2020. Goals are to be achieved through three-year plans.

The National Framework states that:

*Australia needs to move from seeing 'protecting children' merely as a response to abuse and neglect to one of promoting the safety and wellbeing of children.*

According to the website:

*The National Framework outlines six supporting outcomes and provides details about how each of these outcomes will be achieved. The six supporting outcomes are:*

- *Children live in safe and supportive families and communities.*
- *Children and families access adequate support to promote safety and intervene early.*
- *Risk factors for child abuse and neglect are addressed. Children who have been abused or neglected receive the support and care they need for their safety and wellbeing.*
- *Indigenous children are supported and safe in their families and communities.*
- *Child sexual abuse and exploitation is prevented and survivors receive adequate support.*

These outcomes are to be achieved by adopting the Public Health Model. This approach to social policy emphasises prevention of child abuse and neglect through a three tiered system. Firstly, universal supports such as health and education benefit all children. Secondary supports are more intensive, and finally, as a last resort, the tertiary phase involves the removal of a child from the family.

## More info

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## Related Entries

### Related Events

- [Select Committee on Child Protection, Tasmania \(2010 - 2011\)](#)

The Select Committee on Child Protection draws on the National Framework for Protecting Australia's Children.

## Resources

- [Select Committee on child protection: Final Report](#), 2011
- Hunter, Cathryn, [Defining the public health model for the child welfare services context](#), September 2011

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You can view this page online by visiting <https://www.findandconnect.gov.au/entity/national-framework-for-protecting-australias-children/>