

# Child Safe



## Statement of Commitment

Children have a right to be safe and the Home Education Network (HEN) is committed to promoting an environment and culture in which they are safe and cared for.

The following procedures are in place to be Child Safe:

### Reporting

HEN is committed to reporting any suspected child abuse to the police.

### Parent Responsibility

HEN runs family events, provides an information hub on resources, events and services of potential benefit to home educators. All parents are expected to attend events with their children; they remain responsible for (and must provide supervision of) their own children at HEN events.

HEN accepts that individual parents will occasionally make private arrangements delegating their supervisory responsibility to another parent/guardian. A parent's supervision responsibility cannot be delegated to HEN; HEN does not act *in loco parentis*.

### Working With Children Checks

HEN requires all external facilitators to provide a Working With Children Check (WWCC).

Parents are not expected to provide a WWCC to attend events with their children, but parents who run events or groups are advised to have one. This does not override the parent's responsibility to supervise their child. WWCCs are free to volunteers [here](#).

HEN sometimes arranges events involving third party facilitators at public venues which parents do not attend. In such instances, WWCCs are required of all facilitators, and parents must assess whether the event and venue are appropriate for their individual child to attend.

### Privacy

Access to the HEN database is limited to those who need such access to fulfill their HEN role e.g. Membership Secretary, Webmaster, Events Managers etc. A WWCC is required of all such members.

### Groups, Events and Camps

HEN provides a list of local and special interest groups as a service to the community. Group listing does not imply endorsement by HEN. Many of the groups are run by our members, others by non-members. Parents have full responsibility for the supervision and safety of their own children. Home educators have widely differing needs and expectations. It is up to each family to decide which groups are suitable for them.

## Tutors

HEN provides a list of tutors as a service to the community. We require all tutors to provide a current WWCC or Teacher Registration. HEN does not endorse or guarantee these tutors and parents should:

- ✓ Check the tutor's suitability and references.
- ✓ Ask to see their WWCC/VIT registration.
- ✓ Ensure tutoring takes place in a public part of the home with a parent or responsible adult present.
- ✓ Ensure tutoring NEVER takes place in a bedroom or closed room away from a parent's oversight.
- ✓ Ensure they are aware of the type of interaction the child is having with the tutor.

It is good practice for the parent to be present or within hearing range during the tutoring and to observe each session.

## Resources

HEN provides a list of resources as a service to the community indicating:

- Free/paid
- Australian/not
- Secular/religious
- Ages/grades

The suitability of resources is a very individual thing. HEN lists resources in good faith as recommended by our members. Parents are advised to check any planned resource and assess its suitability for their own individual family – different families have different values.

Home Education Network Inc

[www.home-ed.vic.edu.au](http://www.home-ed.vic.edu.au)

Incorporation No: A0039557N

ABN 72100596591