

GUIDE 3: EXTERNAL-TO-DEFENCE REPORTING CONTACT INFORMATION

This guide should be read in conjunction with YOUTHPOLMAN Part 1 Section 1 Chapter 2: Youth Protection Documentation, Records and Privacy

Class A or B events/incidents will require external reporting. **Note** some Class C and D events/incidents will meet the reporting threshold for some states and territories.

If in doubt, report and follow the advice of the JMPU, civil police and/or Child Protection agency as appropriate.

Do not contact parents or guardians if a parent, guardian or other family member is the alleged perpetrator.

Police

Call the Police immediately on **000** if you believe a youth is in immediate danger or in a life-threatening situation.

If you believe an offence has been committed, notify the police on **131444**.

Jurisdiction	Police website
ACT	www.afp.gov.au
NSW	www.police.nsw.gov.au
Queensland	www.police.qld.gov.au
South Australia	www.police.sa.gov.au
Victoria	www.police.vic.gov.au
Tasmania	www.police.tas.gov.au
Western Australia	www.police.wa.gov.au
Northern Territory	www.pfes.nt.gov.au

Jurisdictions - Child and youth protection/welfare agencies

The agencies listed below receive, assess and investigate reports of possible child abuse. There are a number of professions who are mandated to report suspicions of child abuse, such as teachers, doctors and nurses.

However, anyone who has reasonable grounds for suspecting that a child or young person is being neglected or abused should report it.

Jurisdiction	Agency	Contact details
Australian Capital Territory	Child and Youth Protection Services	https://www.communityservices.act.gov.au/ocyfs/children/child-and-youth-protection-services

		1300 556 729
New South Wales	Communities and Justice	https://www.facs.nsw.gov.au/families 132 111
Queensland	Department of Communities, Child Safety and Disability Services	www.communities.qld.gov.au/childsafety/protectingchildren 1800 811 810 +61 7 3235 9999
South Australia	Department for Education and Child Development	www.families.sa.gov.au/child-safe-environments 131 478
Victoria	Department of Health and Human Services	https://services.dhhs.vic.gov.au/young-people 13 12 78
Tasmania	Department of Communities Tasmania	https://www.communities.tas.gov.au 1300 737 639
Western Australia	Department of Communities Child Protection and Family Support	https://www.dcp.wa.gov.au/Pages/Home.aspx 1800 622 258 or +61 8 9222 2555
Northern Territory	Department of Children and Families	www.nt.gov.au/law/crime/report-child-abuse 1800 700 250

Jurisdictions - Mandatory reporting information

Jurisdiction	Legislation	
	Child Protection	Working With Children Checks
National - General Guidance	Australian Institute of Family Studies	https://aifs.gov.au/cfca/publications/mandatory-reporting-child-abuse-and-neglect
Australian Capital Territory	Children and Young People Act 2008 (ACT)	Working with Vulnerable People (Background Checking) Act 2011

	http://www.legislation.act.gov.au/a/2008-19/current/pdf/2008-19.pdf	http://www.legislation.act.gov.au/a/2011-44/
New South Wales	Children and Young Persons (Care and Protection) Act 1998 http://www.austlii.edu.au/au/legis/nsw/consol_act/caypapa1998442/	Child Protection (Working with Children) Act 2012 http://www.austlii.edu.au/au/legis/nsw/consol_act/cpwca2012388/
Queensland	Child Protection Act 1999 https://www.legislation.qld.gov.au/view/html/inforce/current/act-1999-010	Working with Children (Risk Management and Screening) Act 2000 https://www.legislation.qld.gov.au/view/pdf/2017-06-05/act-2000-060
South Australia	Children and Young People (Safety) Act 2017 https://www.legislation.sa.gov.au/LZ/C/A/CHILDREN%20AND%20YOUNG%20PEOPLE%20(SAFETY)%20ACT%202017.aspx	
Victoria	The Children Youth and Families Act (2005) https://www.legislation.vic.gov.au/in-force/acts/children-youth-and-families-act-2005/119	Worker Screening Act 2020 http://www.austlii.edu.au/au/legis/vic/consol_act/wwca2005232/
Tasmania	The Children Young Persons and their Families Act (1997) http://www.austlii.edu.au/au/legis/tas/consol_act/cypatfa1997399/	Registration to Work with Vulnerable People Act 2013 http://www.austlii.edu.au/au/legis/tas/num_act/rtwwvpa201365o2013527/
Western Australia	Children and Community Services Act 2004 http://www.austlii.edu.au/au/legis/wa/consol_act/cacsa2004318/	Working with Children (Criminal Record Checking) Act 2004 https://www.legislation.wa.gov.au/legislation/statutes.nsf/main_mrtile_1095_homepage.html
Northern Territory	Care and Protection of Children Act 2007 (Chapter 3, sections 183-196 for WWCC) http://www.austlii.edu.au/au/legis/nt/num_act/capoca200737o2007315/	

Checklist of information to report

When making a report to civil police, JMPU or a Child Protection agency you should provide as much information as possible, but only if readily available and/or on file. The information listed below is suggested as a guide only.

Youth	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Name and age • Disabilities, mental or physical health issues • Current location and safety status • Any other significant/relevant factors
Alleged Abuse/ Unacceptable Behaviour	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dates/times • Nature of abuse/unacceptable behaviour
Notifier	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Name, occupation • Location, contact details • Relationship to youth • Grounds for belief, present/prior concerns
Family	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Composition, parent/carer information • Family awareness of report

Support services

Organisation	Summary of Services	Contacts
Defence Youth Protection Contact	Provides advice and guidance related to Youth Protection in Defence contexts.	youth.protection@defence.gov.au
SeMPRO	Victim-focused care to Defence personnel, ADF Cadets and ADF Adult Volunteers who have been affected by an incident of sexual misconduct. SeMPRO will operate in a trauma-informed manner to deliver best-practice support to those affected by sexual misconduct, as well as those who are supporting them.	www.defence.gov.au/sempro/ 1800 736 776
Joint Military Police Unit	The Joint Military Police Unit is the primary contact for all Defence policing	131167¹

¹ JMPU 24/7 Hotline

	matters, providing general duties policing and investigative capability to the ADF including youth protection matters.	
Comcare	Comcare must be notified if a youth protection event/incident involves a fatality, serious injury or illness or a dangerous incident as defined in the WHS Act 2011 Sections 36 and 37.	1300 366 979
EAP	Provides Defence employees, ADF Cadets and ADF Adult Volunteers with confidential phone counselling & digital support 24/7 in Australia & overseas.	https://eapassist.com.au 1300 687 327
All-hours Support Line	The All-hours Support Line (ASL) is a confidential telephone service for ADF members and their families that is available 24 hours a day, seven days a week.	1800 628 036
Kids Helpline	Free, private and confidential, telephone and online counselling service specifically for young people aged between 5 and 25 and parents/carers.	www.kidshelpline.com.au 1800 55 1800
Lifeline	Confidential 24-hour crisis support service for people to access support or talk through issues they are facing.	www.lifeline.org.au 13 11 14
1800RESPECT	The National Sexual Assault, Family & Domestic Violence Counselling Line for any Australian who has experienced, or is at risk of, family and domestic violence and/or sexual assault.	www.1800respect.org.au 1800 737 732
Childwise	Provides Australians with access to expert advice from trained counsellors and an opportunity to speak up about child abuse.	www.childwise.org.au 1800 991099
Beyondblue	Provides information on depression, anxiety and related disorders, available treatments and referrals to relevant services.	www.beyondblue.org.au 1300 22 4636
Relationships Australia	Support groups and counselling on relationships and for abusive and abused partners.	www.relationships.org.au 1300 364 277
Bravehearts	Provides information or support regarding child sexual assault.	www.bravehearts.org.au 1800 272 831
Blueknot	For adults who have experienced childhood trauma.	www.blueknot.org.au 1300 657 380
Mensline	A professional telephone and online support and information service for Australian men.	www.mensline.org.au 1300 78 99 78