



SIM AUSTRALIA

CHILD SAFETY POLICY

The vision of SIM is to see a witness to Christ’s love where He is least known, disciples of Jesus expressing God’s love in their communities, and Christ-centered churches among all peoples.” This vision includes caring for and showing God’s love to the vulnerable. God cares for and calls others to care for those who cannot often care for themselves, the vulnerable. Psalm 68:5

We believe that all people are valuable and worthy of respect and care because they are made in the image of God. We believe that God is the Defender of the vulnerable and that the Lord Jesus cares for and values all children. Children are vulnerable and therefore require special care and attention in order to prevent them from being harmed. We recognize that harm may lead to serious injury, whether physical, emotional, or sexual. Harm may be intentional or unintentional, may come from a parent, other adult, a child, or even from a child’s own actions. We believe we therefore have a responsibility as an organization, before God, to care for the children under the care of our organization and to protect them from harm.

Objectives

The objectives of this policy are to reduce the risk of harm to children under the care of SIM Australia and to reduce the risk of misconduct towards children by SIM Australia workers. SIM Australia expects every individual (child and adult) to be treated with dignity, care and respect. SIM Australia recognizes its responsibility to safeguard the welfare of all children within its care by earnestly striving to protect them from harm and seriously addressing concerns and reports of possible Child Safety issues which include physical harm, sexual harm, emotional harm, self-harm and neglect.

To achieve these objectives, SIM Australia will implement the following strategies:

- **Prevention Strategies** which include safe recruitment procedures, awareness training, and a Code of Conduct to provide clear expectations of SIM Australia workers and monitoring of SIM Australia workers.
- **Response Strategies** including guidelines for reporting and responding to Child Safety concerns, disclosures or allegations.