ARC 2025–26 Annual Statement of Compliance with the Commonwealth Child Safe Framework

The ARC is committed to promoting the safety and wellbeing of children and young people and to meeting its obligations under the Commonwealth Child Safe Framework (CCSF).

The ARC and its staff do not have interactions with children as part of its standard operations; however, third parties funded through the NCGP may undertake research involving children.

An assessment of child safety related risks was undertaken by the ARC in 2025–26 and determined that the ARC's overarching residual risk rating is low. Key risks identified related to non-compliance with the CCSF and the National Principles for Child Safe Organisations by organisations receiving funding from the ARC, at a project level.

The ARC has a range of controls in place to address these risks including:

- the inclusion of child safety clauses in ARC Grant Agreements for funded third parties
- annual assurance from Administering Organisations regarding compliance with the child safety clauses in applicable ARC Grant Agreements at a project level
- the provision of training for ARC staff on the requirements of the CCSF to ensure an understanding of their role in fostering child safety.

The ARC is compliant with all requirements of the CCSF.

Key child safety activities undertaken in 2025–26 included the delivery of mandatory CCSF training to all ARC staff, including contractors, annual assurance of ARC-funded grant activities, and evaluation and enhancement of internal child safety procedures.

The ARC will continue to evaluate and enhance its internal child safety procedures, drawing on the outcomes of annual risk assessments and grant assurance activities to identify opportunities for continuous improvement.