

Child Information Sharing Scheme

‘Introduction to Child Information Sharing and Family Violence Reforms’ Virtual Lunchtime Education Session

Presented by: Nerida Mason - DET Implementation, Victorian Child Information Sharing Division, Victorian Department of Education

Co-Facilitators: Jo Millard- Nurse Programs Manager, RN
Sara Drew- Nurse Programs Manager, RN

IT Support & Admin: Alisha Komninos- Project Coordinator



Acknowledgement of Country

APNA recognises the traditional custodians of land and sea, on whose lands we work and live. We wish to pay our respects to all traditional owners and elders past, present and future.



Learning Objectives

- ▶ Explain changes to improve information sharing for the purpose of promoting child wellbeing and safety
- ▶ Recognise the difference between mandatory reporting requirements and information sharing
- ▶ Consider benefits and challenges

INFORMATION SHARING & FAMILY VIOLENCE REFORMS

APNA

Nerida Mason, Manager DET Implementation

Victorian Child Information Sharing Division

It's OK to share, you could make a difference

WHAT ARE THE REFORMS?



It's OK to share, you could make a difference

VIDEO – WHY ARE WE HERE?



It's OK to share, you could make a difference

WHO CAN SHARE INFORMATION?

27 September 2018
Phase One

- Child Protection
- Integrated family services (including Child First)
- Out-of-Home Care
- Maternal and Child Health services
- The Orange Door (formerly Support and Safety Hubs)
- Specialist family violence services and RAMPs
- Sexual assault services
- Designated Mental health services
- Alcohol and other drugs services
- DHHS Housing and selected homelessness services
- Victoria Police
- Youth Justice & Youth Parole Board
- Justice Health (children and young people only for CIS)
- Victim's Support Agency and Victim Assistance Programs
- Multi Agency Panels for Youth Offending (MAPs)
- Registry of Births, Deaths and Marriages

<https://iselist.www.vic.gov.au/ise/list/>

19 April 2021
Phase Two



Education Portfolio Workforces

Examples include:

- Government schools
- Catholic schools
- Independent schools
- DET funded/delivered student disengagement and wellbeing programs and services
- Kindergartens
- Long day care
- Before and After School Hours Care
- Relevant non-government school system bodies



Health Portfolio Workforces

Examples include:

- General practitioners
- General Practice nurses
- Supported playgroups
- Early parenting centres
- Community health services
- Public hospitals
- Ambulance Victoria

Almost 12,000 participants from education workforces successfully trained in information sharing since March 2020.

It's OK to share, you could make a difference

CHILD WELLBEING AND SAFETY OBLIGATIONS



Child Safe Standards



Mandatory Reporting



Reportable Conduct



Existing obligations continue to apply, including mandatory reporting



Duty of Care



Privacy Laws



Criminal Laws



CISS and FVISS provide **additional** permissions to share relevant information

It's OK to share, you could make a difference

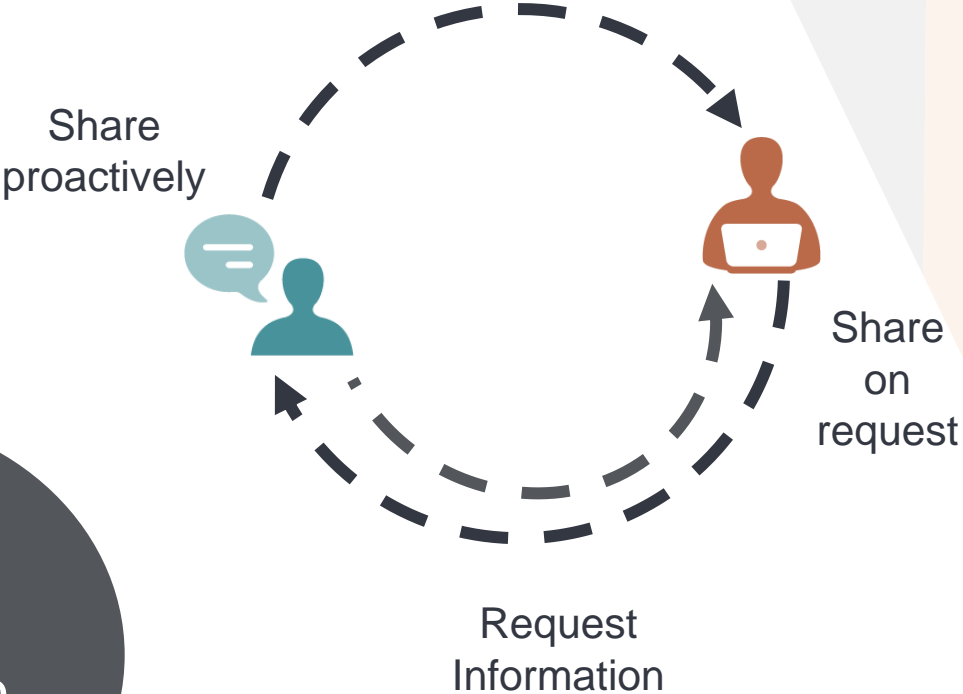
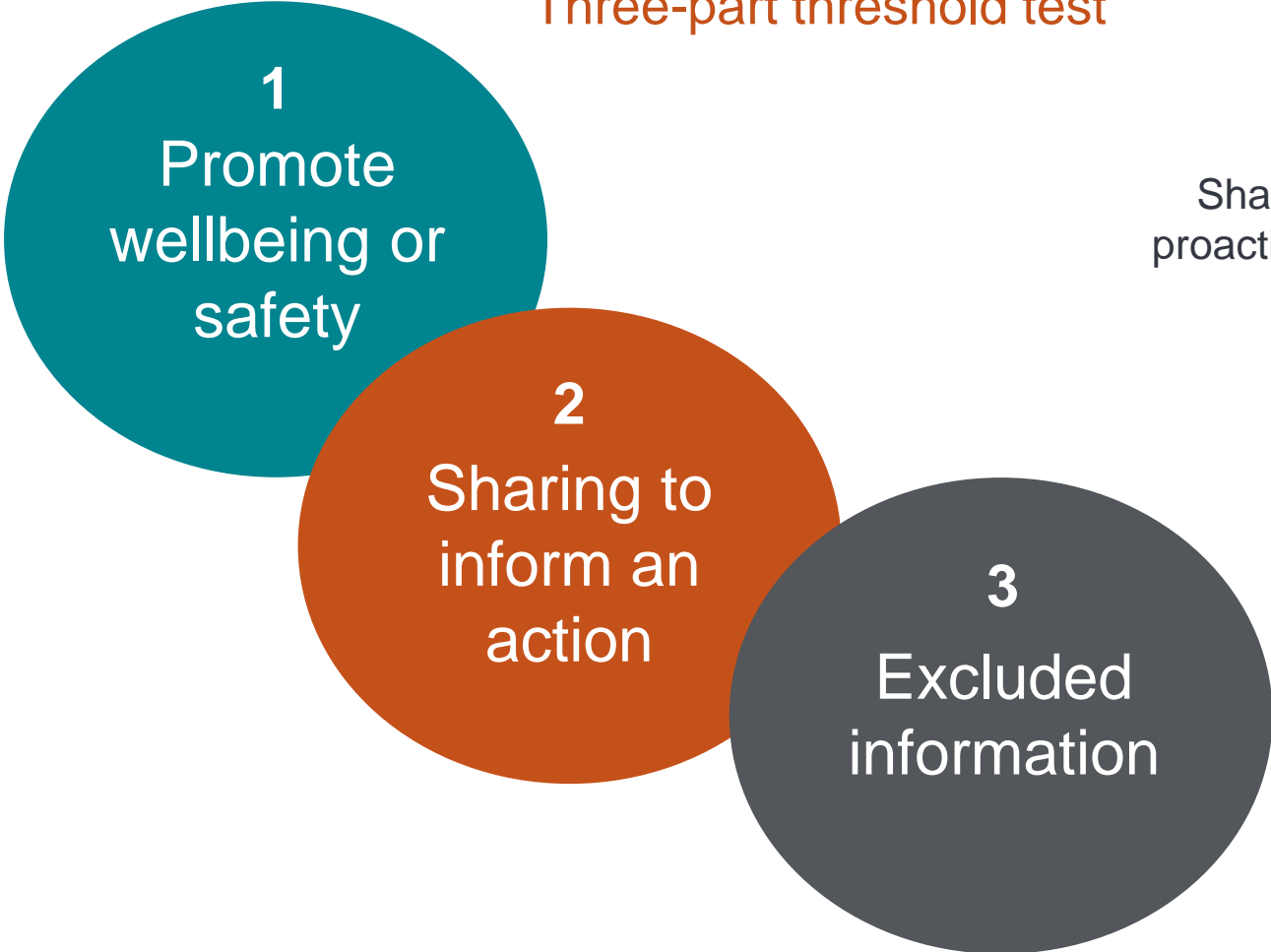
MANDATORY REPORTING

| | | |
|-------------------------------------|--|--|
| What information do I share? | A mandatory report must be made if: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• A child has suffered, or is likely to suffer, significant harms as a result of physical abuse and/or sexual abuse: and• The child's parents have not protected, or are unlikely to protect, the child from harm of that type | Information Sharing Entities (ISE's): <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Must respond to requests for information that meet the requirement of the Schemes• Should request or proactively share information to promote the wellbeing or safety of a child and/or to assess or manage family violence risk |
| Who do I share with? | DFFH Child Protection | Other Prescribed ISEs |
| Are there requirements for sharing? | Yes , when a mandatory reporter has a reasonable belief that: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• A child has suffered, or is likely to suffer, significant harms as a result of physical abuse and/or sexual abuse: and• The child's parents have not protected, or are unlikely to protect, the child from harm of that type | Yes , there are requirements for sharing under both Information Sharing Schemes and these must be met before making a request or sharing information. |
| How does information flow? | One-way: the mandatory reporter shares information with DFFH Child Protection | Two-ways: ISEs can share and request information |

It's OK to share, you could make a difference

CHILD INFORMATION SHARING SCHEME (CISS)

Three-part threshold test



It's OK to share, you could make a difference

FAMILY VIOLENCE INFORMATION SHARING SCHEME (FVISS)

Requirements for sharing

1

To assess OR
protect from
family violence
risk

2

The applicable
consent
requirements
are met

3

The information
is not excluded
information

It's OK to share, you could make a difference

Benefits for children and families

The Reforms promote the wellbeing and safety of children by:

- Improving earlier identification and enabling earlier support and engagement with relevant services
- Supporting a collaborative, coordinated and integrated approach to service delivery across the service sector
- Empowering professionals to make informed decisions about the needs of the children and families in their care
- Promoting a shared responsibility for wellbeing, safety and identifying and responding to family violence across the service sector



It's OK to share, you could make a difference

WHAT'S NEW?

The Reforms will authorise prescribed workforces to:

Respond to requests for information to promote child wellbeing or safety and/or assess and manage risk of family violence (mandatory)

Request information to promote child wellbeing or safety and/or manage risk of family violence

Proactively share information to promote child wellbeing or safety and/or manage risk of family violence.



It's OK to share, you could make a difference

SAFEGUARDS FOR THE REFORMS



Only prescribed organisations and services can share



Organisations are bound by Ministerial Guidelines



Professionals (ISEs) are trained and have access to supporting resources



Good faith defence provides protection for professionals



Complaints can be lodged



Offences and penalties for inappropriate use

It's OK to share, you could make a difference

INFORMATION SHARING AND FAMILY VIOLENCE REFORMS

- ▶ **Leaders webinars** for workplace leaders
- ▶ **Practical webinars** for teachers, educators and professionals with information sharing responsibilities
- ▶ **Specific targeted briefings** on request (e.g. at cluster meetings or planning days)
- ▶ **eLearning modules** covering all content for both leaders and professionals
- ▶ **Register for training:**
<https://elearn.childlink.com.au/login/index.php>
- ▶ **Toolkit and Contextualised Guidance:**
[Child protection privacy and information sharing \(education.vic.gov.au\)](https://education.vic.gov.au)
- ▶ **ISE List:**
<https://elearn.childlink.com.au/login/index.php>
- ▶ Online resources: infosharing.vic.gov.au
- ▶ **Enquiry line** 1800 549 646 or CISandFVIS@education.vic.gov.au

It's OK to share, you could make a difference

INFORMATION SHARING & FAMILY VIOLENCE REFORMS

Victorian Child Information Sharing Division

It's OK to share, you could make a difference