

# IMPORTANT INFORMATION

## Changes to school screening policy

The Department for Education and Child Development has updated its screening policy to make it easier for parents and guardians to volunteer their time.

The changes are consistent with the recommendations outlined in the *Working with Children Checks Report* of the Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse.

From Monday 25 January 2016, parents and guardians volunteering in schools and preschools to support their own child's education (e.g. helping in the classroom and attending excursions) will no longer need to undertake relevant history screening.

Parents and guardians who are governing council members will require a DCSI child-related employment screening as the school governing council is the employing authority for an out of school hours care service.

Screening will continue to apply to:

- all DECD employees
- volunteers with Families SA
- volunteers working closely with children with disabilities
- people attending overnight camps and school sleep overs
- hosts of billets or homestay students
- some contractors and third-party providers
- sports coaches who are **not** parents or guardians of a child in the team.
- Grandparents, aunts, uncles of student/s

The Relevant History Screening process has also changed and is now completed on-line and must be initiated by the school. If you fall into the above category and you are still required to undergo screening, please speak to Sonya Scottney-Turbill in the office.

As has always been the case, people attending a single event or activity at a school or preschool, such as a concert, fundraising events, swimming week or sports day do not need to be screened.

**This information replaces the screening instructions contained in your Student Information Pack 2016**