



Dear Friend ,

Much of the work done by Rotary brings us into direct contact with children. Legislation in Victoria requires that adults, other than those classified in the Act as 'exempt', whose work, either paid or voluntary, brings them into direct contact with children must have a current Working With Children Check.

The legislation is shortly to be amended to broaden the definition of 'direct contact' to include emails, letters, phone calls etc.

Members will be aware that it has been District 9800 policy for some time that all Rotarians in this District have a current Working with Children Check. It is also District 9800 policy that direct contact with children is always directly supervised by another person, even where a person has a current Working with Children Check.

At its meeting on November 8th 2016, the Board of the Rotary Club of Glenferrie resolved to incorporate this requirement into club policy and to fully implement it by the end of this Rotary year.

The recording of accreditation in the club membership records is being overseen by the club's Assistant Secretary, Keith Duncan.

1. Existing members are strongly encouraged to apply for a Victorian Working with Children Check by June 30th 2017. The aim is to have 100% compliance for Glenferrie.
2. New members will be asked to obtain a Victorian Working with Children Check as part of their membership application process.
3. Effective immediately, members and volunteers working on projects sponsored by the Rotary Club of Glenferrie are not permitted to have direct contact with children under those programs unless evidence of their current Working with Children registration is held by the club.

The procedure for obtaining a Victorian Working with Children accreditation is set out on this Victorian Government website: <http://www.workingwithchildren.vic.gov.au>

Many members have already advised that they have a current Working with Children accreditation. If you have not done so already, please update your registration to include The Rotary Club of Glenferrie, scan your card and email it to Keith, or photocopy it and hand it to him at a club meeting. Keith's email address is: kiduncan@me.com

If you are in the 'exempt' category, please advise Keith in writing and the basis for your exemption.

The Working with Children requirements are not onerous and aim to protect children, to help ensure that they can grow up in a protected and nurturing environment. Thank you in advance for your help in bringing the club into compliance. Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours in Rotary Service,

Richard Blakeman
Secretary and Public Officer