

THE CHILD INFORMATION SHARING REFORMS IN ACTION

MAV

Nerida Mason, Manager DET Implementation

Liz Carmody, Lead Educator Child Information Sharing Training

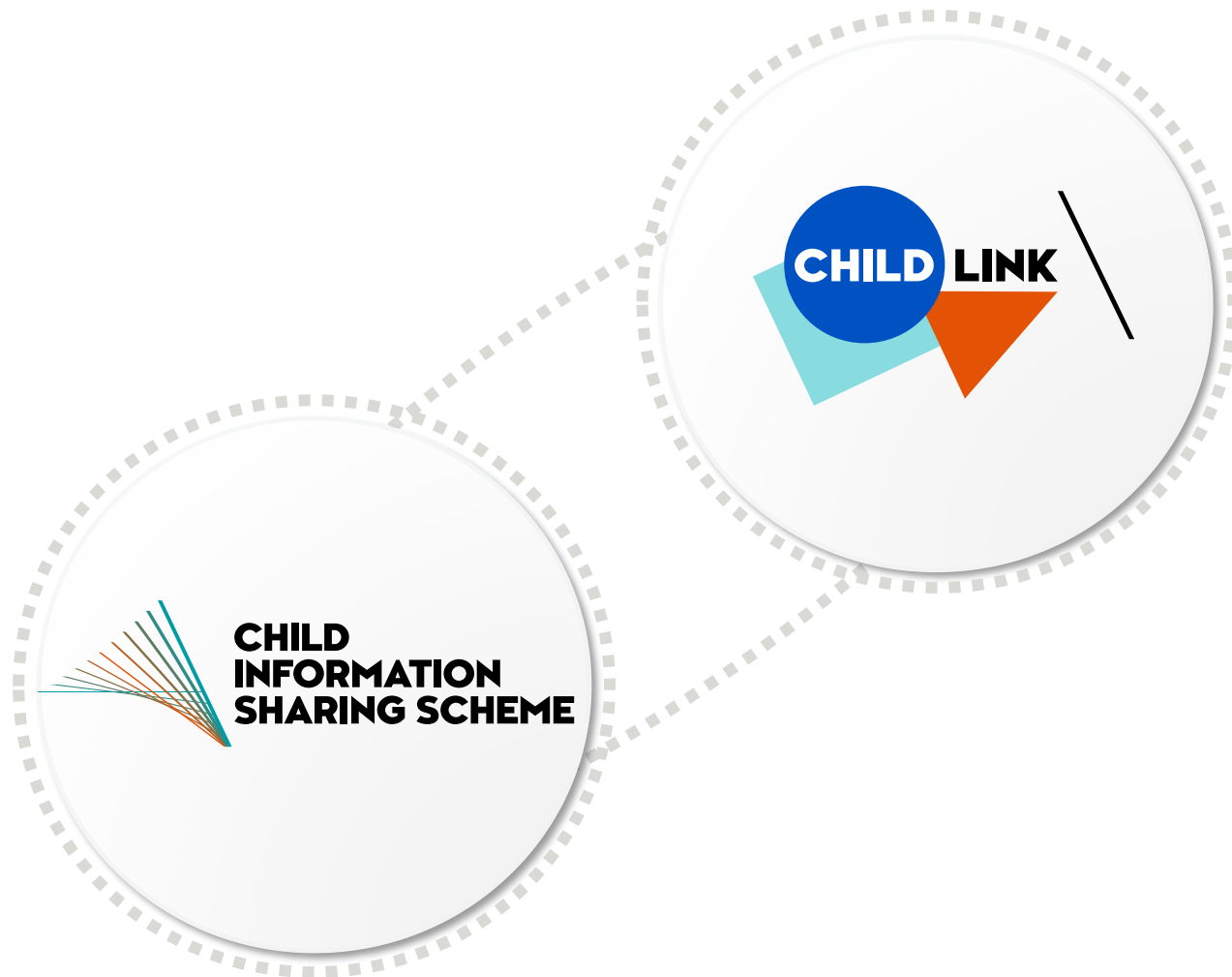
Victorian Child Information Sharing Division

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

WHAT ARE THE REFORMS?



CHILD INFORMATION SHARING REFORMS



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

SHARING INFORMATION UNDER CISS

Can I share information to promote the wellbeing or safety of a child or a group of children under the Child Information Sharing Scheme?



Is my organisation a prescribed Information Sharing Entity (ISE)?



Am I authorised by my organisation to share information under CISS?



Is the organisation I am sharing with a prescribed ISE?



Does the information meet the requirements for sharing under CISS?



Have I sought the views and wishes of the child or relevant family members?



Do I know what the legislated record-keeping requirements and those of my organisation are and where to record them?

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

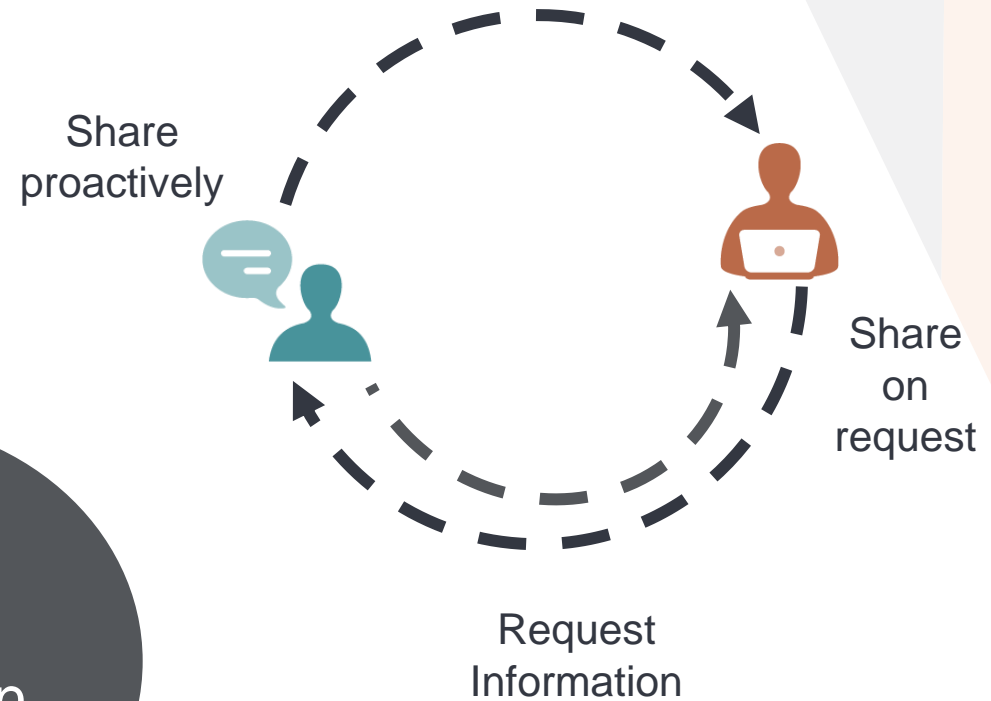
It's OK to share, you could make a difference

Requirements for sharing under the Child Information Sharing Scheme



CHILD INFORMATION SHARING SCHEME (CISS)

Threshold for sharing



REQUIREMENTS FOR SHARING INFORMATION UNDER CISS?

1. Promote wellbeing or safety



Factors of a child's wellbeing:

- Physical, psychological and emotional health
- Access to and engagement with supportive services
- Engagement in supportive relationships and connection to culture
- Involvement in activities that will foster development
- Access to resources for learning and development
- Access to safe accommodation and nourishment
- Safe and stable environment in which to live, learn and grow

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

REQUIREMENTS FOR SHARING INFORMATION UNDER CISS?

2. Sharing to inform an action

Specified activities to promote wellbeing or safety of a child or group of children:

- Make a decision, an assessment or plan
- Initiating or conducting an investigation
- Provide a service relating to a child/children
- Manage any risk to a child or a group of children



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

REQUIREMENTS FOR SHARING INFORMATION UNDER CISS?

3. Excluded information

Would include information that could:

- Endanger a person's life or result in physical injury
- Prejudice legal proceedings, a police investigation or coronial inquiry interfere with the enforcement or administration of the law
- Contravene a court order or another law
- Be legally privileged
- Reveal a confidential police source
- Be contrary to public interest



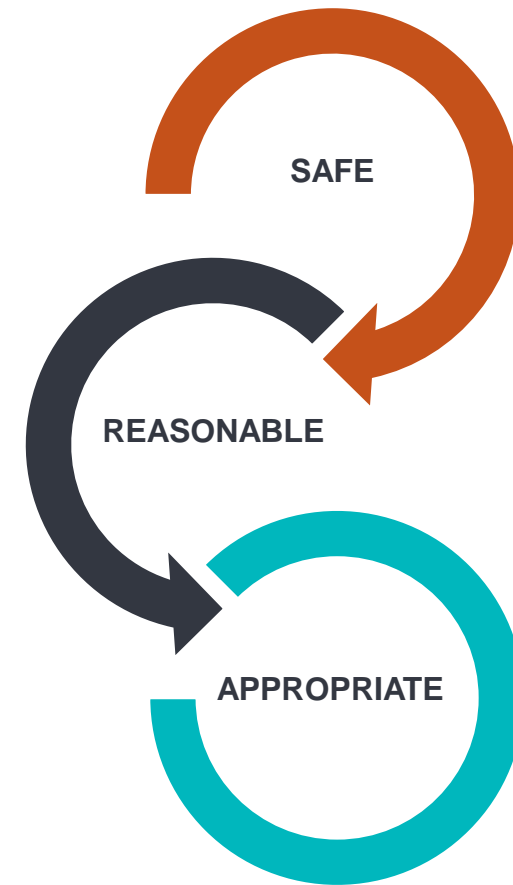
It's OK to share, you could make a difference

SEEKING VIEWS AND WISHES

You **would seek and take into account** the views and wishes of a child and relevant family members if it **is** safe, reasonable and appropriate to do so.

Seeking views and wishes is best practice - it helps to:

- Develop and maintain trusting, and positive relationships
- Improve and maintain engagement
- Empower those involved
- Understand the unique insight of those involved
- Increase or protect the safety of those involved



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

WAYS YOU CAN SHARE INFORMATION UNDER CISS

How do I share the information?

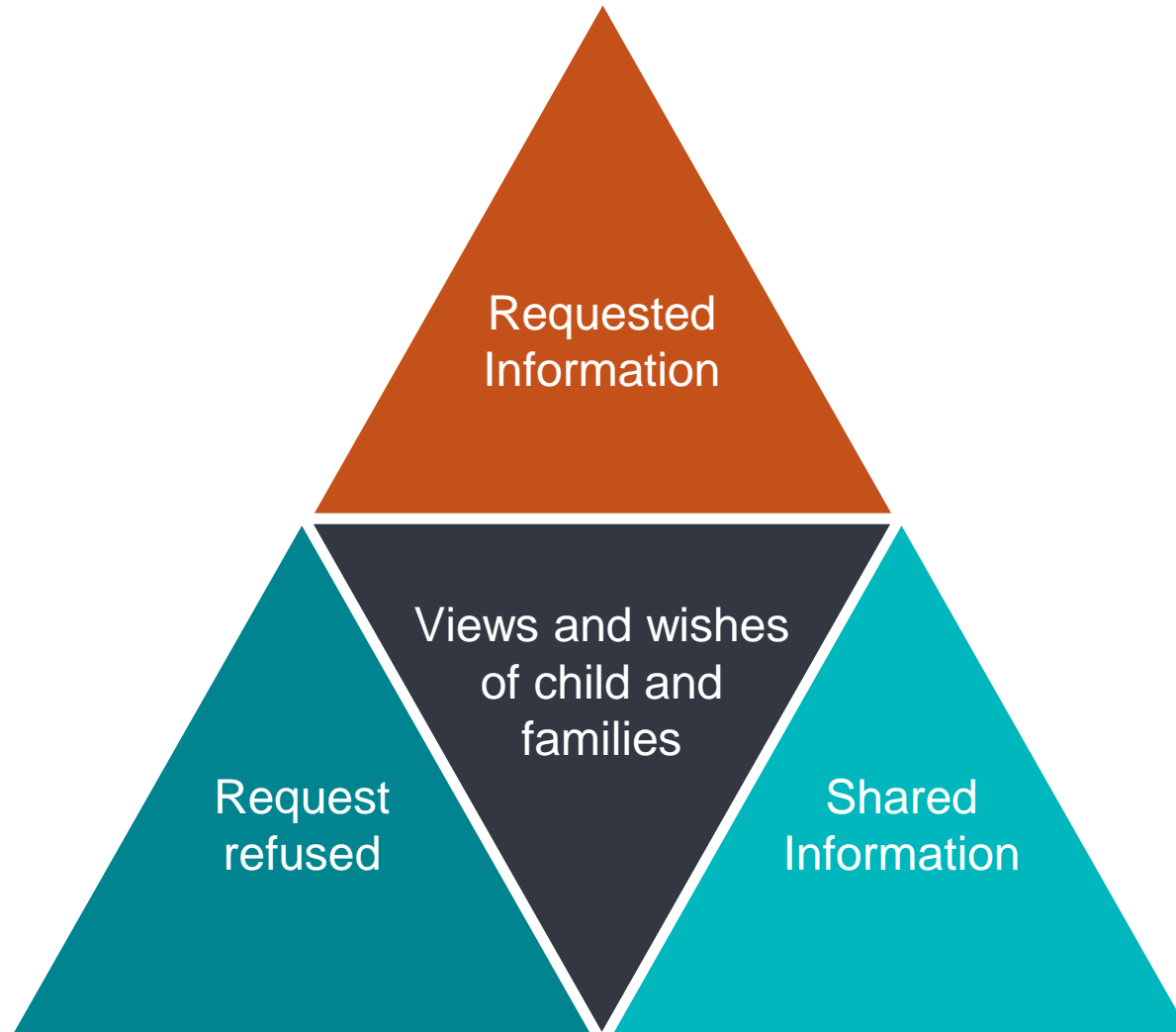
- Follow your organisations information sharing process
- Follow the process of the organisation you are sharing with
- Seek guidance from your relevant Department
- Processes may include – email, phone call, forms or templates

Ensure the person you are sharing with is who they say they are and are from a prescribed ISE



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

RECORD KEEPING REQUIREMENTS UNDER CISS



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

PLACEHOLDER FOR SCENARIO EXAMPLE

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

SHARING INFORMATION UNDER CISS

Can I share information to promote the wellbeing or safety of a child or a group of children under the Child Information Sharing Scheme?



Is my organisation a prescribed Information Sharing Entity (ISE)?



Am I authorised by my organisation to share information under CISS?



Is the organisation I am sharing with a prescribed ISE?



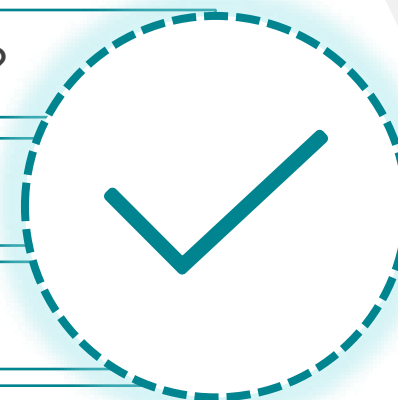
Does the information meet the requirements for sharing under CISS?



Have I sought the views and wishes of the child or relevant family members?



Ensure legislated record-keeping requirements and those of my organisation are met.



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

SHARING INFORMATION UNDER CISS

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

EDUCATION AND SUPPORT FOR WORKFORCES

Resources and supports:

- ▶ Toolkit and Contextualised Guidance for Education workforces:
[Child protection privacy and information sharing \(education.vic.gov.au\)](https://education.vic.gov.au/child-protection-privacy-and-information-sharing)
- ▶ ISE List:
<https://iselist.www.vic.gov.au/ise/list/>
- ▶ Online resources:
 - ▶ www.mav.asn.au
 - ▶ infosharing.vic.gov.au
- ▶ Enquiry line:
 - ▶ 1800 549 646
 - ▶ CISandFVIS@education.vic.gov.au

Training

- ▶ Register for training:
<https://elearn.childlink.com.au/login/index.php>
- ▶ eLearning modules (MCH & ECEC) and Webinars (ECEC)
- ▶ Specific targeted briefings on request (ECEC)



QUESTIONS



INFORMATION SHARING & FAMILY VIOLENCE REFORMS

Victorian Child Information Sharing Division

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