



Standard 8

Physical and online environments

Creating safe environments, both physical and online, is a cornerstone of children’s safety and wellbeing. Standard 8 requires organisations to actively identify, assess, and mitigate risks in all spaces that children access. This ensures their wellbeing is prioritised and opportunities for harm are significantly reduced. Maroochy Beach Gymnastics will commit to provide an environment where children feel secure, safe, respected, and supported. Physical and online environments must prioritise the physical, social, spiritual, emotional, and cultural safety and wellbeing of all children. This Standard matters to us because children who interact in diverse settings—from community spaces to online forums, should understand how to protect themselves, building trust among families, carers, and communities.

KEY ACTION AREAS	HOW MGB IS ALREADY EMBEDDING THIS KEY ACTION AREA	OUR GOALS (STEPS)	PRIORITY RATING <i>LOW</i> <i>MEDIUM</i> <i>HIGH</i>	HOW MGB WILL EMBED OUR GOALS AND WHEN	MEASURES OF SUCCESS REVIEW DATE <i>Term based Reviews</i>
8.1 The organisation takes a holistic, strengths-based approach to safety and wellbeing, ensuring that	Considers ways in which the physical environment might promote cultural safety Example: - Conduct regular risk assessments of physical	Host a Culture & Community Morning during a school holidays - meet the coaches.	L	Subcommittee to organise for Term 4 holidays	Policies for online safety are documented, implemented, and monitored effectively.

<p>all aspects of a child’s wellbeing – physical, social, spiritual, emotional, and cultural – are prioritised.</p>	<p>environments to identify and mitigate potential hazards - Coaches and staff to report to Club manager. Risk Management form (equipment, hazards etc).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Safety Audits: Conduct regular audits of physical spaces to identify and mitigate risks, including playgrounds, classrooms, and communal areas. <p>Junior programs include sensory resources.</p>	<p>Provide clear expectations usual visual aids where language may be a barrier.</p> <p>Provide sensory safe opportunity for flexible gymnastics attire.</p>			<p>The Club takes all concerns seriously, acts promptly and respectfully, prioritise the safety and wellbeing of the child or young person.</p> <p>Families are informed where appropriate.</p> <p>Review: Term 2, 2026</p>
<p>8.2</p> <p>Staff and volunteers identify and mitigate risks in the online and physical environments without compromising a child’s right to privacy, access to information, social connections and learning opportunities.</p>	<p>Staff and volunteers are proactive in identifying and mitigating physical and online risks.</p> <p>Confidentiality for HR incidents,</p> <p>Staff, volunteers, and members access and use online environments in line with the organisation’s Code of Conduct and relevant communication protocols.</p> <p>Supervision Guidelines: Establish clear protocols for supervising children in both physical and online spaces.</p>	<p>Implement technology usage guidelines that address online safety, including monitoring, secure data handling, and appropriate communication practices.</p> <p>Provide other forms of social interaction that is supervised.</p> <p>Media Release forms should include a question about culturally safe online images.</p> <p>Establish adequate ratio of coach to child.</p>	<p>H</p> <p>L</p>	<p>Reminders about safety online – parent chat groups, kids messenger friendship groups.</p> <p>Immediate and ongoing</p>	<p>Physical and online environments meet safety standards and are regularly assessed for risks.</p> <p>Review: Term 2, 2026</p>

	<p>Risks to Children to escalate to the appropriate level of reportable Conduct with breaking confidentiality.</p> <p>Children, their carers and families are informed, in culturally appropriate ways, about the use of the organisation's technology and safety tools.</p> <p>We:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - use only official club platforms for communication (Team App, Club Email). - Prohibit staff and volunteers from using private messaging with children - Require photo/video consent before sharing and images to group chats or otherwise. - Ensure online content does not identify vulnerable children - Staff Code of Conduct – digital boundaries and safe communication 				
<p>8.3</p> <p>The online environment is used in accordance</p>	<p>The risk management strategy addresses physical and online and media related risks, including risks arising from child to child and adult</p>	<p>Refresh media release permissions yearly and upon enrolment process. Alert staff to any changes.</p>	<p>H</p>	<p>Club manager to email all members to update relevant contact information as well as media</p>	<p>Children report feeling safe in both physical</p>

<p>with the organisation’s Code of Conduct and Child Safety and Wellbeing Policy and practices.</p>	<p>to child interactions and the state and nature of physical spaces.</p> <p>Develop clear policies for supervising children in all physical settings, including outdoor spaces. (Whole Club Code of Conduct, Staff Code of Conduct, Gymnasts Code of Conduct, Member Code of Conduct)</p> <p>Technology Policies: Implement clear guidelines for safe online interactions, including monitoring tools and data security measures.</p>	<p>Refresh medical information yearly and upon enrolment process. Alert staff to any changes.</p> <p>Online safety for children amongst children – cyber bullying.</p> <p>Normalise talking about feelings and physical wellbeing by Introducing wellbeing circle to “Cool-Down Chat (2 minutes)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - What was one good things about your class today? - Is there anything you didn’t enjoy or found tricky? - How is you body feeling right now – any soreness or worries? <p>For younger students, they can point to a wellbeing emoji chart (Super, Good, Okay, Not my best day). Coaches to review patterns over time and report to Head Coach.</p>	<p>M</p> <p>H</p>	<p>release permissions.</p> <p>Immediate</p> <p>To remind children and educate through coaches and training sessions.</p> <p>Immediate</p> <p>Introduce at end of every Training session</p> <p>Immediate</p>	<p>and online environments.</p> <p>Child friendly surveys</p> <p>Review: Term 2, 2026</p>
<p>8.4</p> <p>Risk management plans (including the Child and Youth Risk Management Strategy) consider risks posed by organisational settings, activities, and the physical environment.</p>	<p>Our risk management strategy addresses physical and online risks, including risks arising from child to child and adult to child interactions and the state and nature of physical spaces.</p>	<p>Engage children, carers, and families to gather feedback on how safe they feel in your spaces and online platforms, including consideration of their cultural safety. – surveys</p> <p>Risk Management Plan to include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Physical setting (gym floor, change rooms, waiting areas) 	<p>M</p>	<p>Club Managers survey plan and feedback action plan</p>	<p>Feedback reported to members, action taken place to rectify any negative feedback.</p> <p>Review: Term 2, 2026</p>

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Online Platforms (social Media, email, group chats) - Interactions between children - Interactions between adults and children - Interactions between adults 			
<p>8.5</p> <p>Organisations that contract facilities and services from third parties have procurement policies that ensure the safety of children.</p>	<p>Third party contractors for the provision of facilities and services have appropriate measures in place to ensure the safety and wellbeing of children, including their cultural safety.</p> <p>Creating a strategic enabling environment – We consider how ensure their spaces reflect Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultural identities, including signage, artwork and language representation.</p>	<p>Prioritising social and emotional wellbeing and health – Physical and online environments should be designed with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander principles of health and wellbeing at their core.</p>	M	<p>Advice and education from Liaison Officer (Sunshine Coast Council)</p> <p>Liarna – Secretary (Gubbi Gubbi)</p> <p>Term 3, 2026</p>	<p>Children of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander decent and other ethnic backgrounds report that policies ensure the safety of them and are sensitive to their culture.</p> <p>Review: Term 2, 2026</p>