

Child Rights

Policy Ref

PN0098

Policy

Child Rights

Description

Te Aka Ora has guidelines for all employees regarding Child Rights

Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to explain the general procedures relating to Child Rights and Te Aka Ora position in relation to these.

Scope

Children's rights are the human rights of children with particular attention to the rights of special protection and care afforded to minors. The Convention on the Rights of the Child (1989) (CRC) defines a child as any human person who has not reached the age of eighteen years. Children's rights includes their right to association with both parents, human identity as well as the basic needs for physical protection, food, universal state-paid education, health care, and criminal laws appropriate for the age and development of the child, equal protection of the child's civil rights, and freedom from discrimination on the basis of the child's race, gender, sexual orientation, gender identity, national origin, religion, disability, colour, ethnicity, or other characteristics. Interpretations of children's rights range from allowing children the capacity for autonomous action to the enforcement of children being physically, mentally and emotionally free from abuse, though what constitutes "abuse" is a matter of debate. Other definitions include the rights to care and nurturing. "There are no definitions of other terms used to describe young people such as "adolescents", "teenagers," or "youth" in international law,[4] but the children's rights movement is considered distinct from the youth rights movement.

Procedure

International Rights: Declaration of the rights of the Child (aka Geneva Rights of the Child)

1. The child must be given the means requisite for its normal development, both materially and spiritually.
2. The child that is hungry must be fed, the child that is sick must be nursed, the child that is backward must be helped, the delinquent child must be reclaimed, and the orphan and the waif must be sheltered and succoured.
3. The child must be the first to receive relief in times of distress.
4. The child must be put in a position to earn a livelihood, and must be protected against every form of exploitation.
5. The child must be brought up in the consciousness that its talents must be devoted to the service of its fellow men.
6. Te Aka Ora adheres to The Convention of the Rights of the Child and the Geneva Rights of the Child. This means the rights of the child accessing Te Aka Ora services comes first in all that we do.
7. All Te Aka Ora employees whether in direct contact with a child in Te Aka Ora services or not must adhere the rights of the child in all their daily work for Te Aka Ora.
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