



"Safety is everyone's responsibility"

ADF CADETS

Safety Management Policy Statement

The safety and welfare of cadets, officers and instructors of cadets and those who help conduct cadet activities is integral to the success of the ADF Cadets as a leading youth development organisation.

The Australian Navy Cadets, the Australian Army Cadets and the Australian Air Force Cadets (together known as the ADF Cadets) enjoy a special relationship with the Australian Defence Organisation. For Defence, sponsorship of the ADF Cadets youth organisation brings with it enhanced obligations because:

- the youth who participate as cadets undertake adventurous activities in military settings
- the majority of cadets are adolescents who have special safety and workplace needs that create additional duty of care responsibilities
- the officers and instructors of cadets who lead and supervise cadets are significantly responsible and accountable for the safe conduct of cadet activities
- cadets and officers and instructors of cadets are deemed to be Commonwealth employees for occupational health and safety purposes while engaged on approved cadet activities

The *Occupational Health and Safety (Commonwealth Employment) Act 1991* provides the structure, principles and legal framework through which the Australian Defence Organisation ensures that:

- cadets
- officers and instructors of cadets
- military and civilian personnel involved in the delivery of cadet programs
- parent helpers and visitors to cadet units

are not exposed to unnecessary risk as a result of conducting cadet activities.

As the major sponsor of the ADF Cadets, the Australian Defence Organisation is genuinely committed to actively:

- promoting good occupational health and safety practice
- providing a safe environment for the conduct of cadet activities, including safe equipment and proper materials
- establishing and insisting upon safe methods and practices at all times
- complying with all legislative requirements
- providing the resources required to promote a safe and supportive environment

The ADF Cadets goal is to achieve a reduction in the risk of accident and injury through improved:

- safety awareness promotion
- occupational health and safety supervision, training and skills development
- guidance on identifying and minimising risks
- incident and hazard reporting
- systems to review and maintain contemporary safety standards
- safety goals and measurable objectives

while promoting adventurous cadet activities in a military setting.

Safety is of paramount importance and everyone associated with the ADF Cadets owes a duty of care to themselves and each other by acting in a way that is safe and does not create unnecessary risk.

The desired outcome for the ADF Cadets is a safe and supportive environment where all participants may enjoy a range of military-like and adventurous activities while developing an awareness of the importance of working and playing safe in their daily lives.

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Major General
Director-General of Cadets

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