

Child Safe Risk Management Plan

Purpose of plan

Creating a child safe environment includes:

1. identifying environmental risks to children's safety in relation to the activities and services we provide, our physical settings and our online spaces and communication
2. taking action to reduce these risks and children's exposure to harm or abuse.

These risks can change over time if our physical and online spaces change, or different activities or services are provided by our organisation. This may also include unique events, excursions or travel involving children. Our plan will be regularly reviewed and updated to reflect any changes.

Our Risk Management Plan in the table below sets out these risks, assesses their potential impact, the strategies to help prevent or reduce them, and keeps track of our progress.

Nature of our settings and services provided

DebateBetter provides online debate coaching and tournaments to primary and high school students in Australia and overseas, delivered through online classes, webinars, tournaments and monitored group channels, with occasional in-person activity.

Responsibility for the plan

The Child Safety Officer is responsible for making sure the strategies to manage risks are implemented and monitored, and signs the per-event online risk assessment before registration opens for each event. Everyone in our organisation should be alert to risks to children's safety and raise any concern, as set out in our Child Safe Policy. This plan is available on our website at debatebetter.au.

Next review date

The Child Safety Officer will review this plan in August 2027 as part of our annual compliance cycle. It will be reviewed and updated immediately if there are any incidents involving children, any change to our online platforms or communications, or any change to the activities and services we deliver.

Risk assessment matrix

Determine the overall level of risk using the risk matrix table.

Table 1 Risk assessment matrix

Likelihood	Insignificant impact	Minor impact	Moderate impact	Major impact	Severe impact
Almost certain	Medium	High	Very high	Very high	Very high
Likely	Medium	High	High	Very high	Very high
Possible	Low	Medium	High	High	Very high
Unlikely	Low	Low	Medium	Medium	High
Rare	Low	Low	Low	Low	Medium

Risk Management Plan

Setting or activity	Risk to children	Likelihood	Consequence	Risk rating	Strategies to prevent or reduce the risk
Online classes and breakout rooms	A coach is alone and unobserved with a single student	Possible	Major	High	No unobserved one-to-one contact; a second adult present or the breakout recorded; waiting rooms enabled; students admitted by name; parents are aware of the format of sessions..
Coach–student communication	Contact drifts to a private channel where it cannot be seen	Possible	Major	High	All communication runs through parents or monitored group channels; no direct messages, personal emails, phone numbers, social media or gaming platforms; group channels are Company-run with at least two adult moderators and retained history.
Recording and data	Recordings are accessed or shared	Unlikely	Severe	High	Recordings are access-controlled, never distributed to coaches, students or families, and securely

	without authority				deleted after 12 months; every adult gives an express acknowledgement before admission.
Images and publication	A student is identified or located from published material	Possible	Major	High	Publication is opt-in and separable from enrolment; we never publish a full name with an image or details that help locate a child; consent can be withdrawn and material is removed within 5 business days.
Tournaments	An unknown adult enters a student room	Unlikely	Major	Medium	Locked rooms, named admission, an adult moderator per room, spectator links for parents, and a per-event online risk assessment signed before registration opens.
Screening and suitability	An unsuitable adult has contact with students	Unlikely	Severe	High	The Coach Bar is met before any student contact; WWCC verified via the OCG employer portal; founders' checks cross-verified; status monitored for change.
Harm between students	Bullying, harassment or sharing an image in chat or breakout rooms	Likely	Moderate	High	Rooms open a few minutes early and close a few minutes late with an adult present; channels are moderated; a coach stops the behaviour and reports it to the CSO the same day.
Occasional in-person activity	One-to-one contact away from view	Unlikely	Major	Medium	In-person activity happens only in visible spaces with another adult present, never one-to-one; every child is accounted for at the start and end.
Unaccounted attendance in zoom meetings	Students are exposed to the presence of unaccounted for people in the zoom	Possible	Moderate	Medium	Zoom meetings are password controlled, all participants have to wait in a waiting room before being accepted into the call. staff members only admit approved accounts and can remove accounts if there is an error.