Checklist for parents

The ten National Principles for Child Safe Organisations outline what is important for making an organisation safe for children and young people. Consider asking the organisation your child is attending what they have in place in these areas.

Principles	Action areas
Leadership	 Clear messages and policies about child safety are displayed at the organisation and on their website. Leaders and staff show a commitment to child safety by their actions and behaviour. Leaders can give examples of how they manage risks to safety.
Empowering children	 Children and young people have a say in how the organisation runs and make suggestions for improvement. Staff empower children and talk about their rights. Children and young people are provided with a variety of safe ways to share their concerns.
Involving family	 The organisation involves parents, carers, the wider family and community. It is clear how to raise a concern and you would feel comfortable to do so. It is clear how parents and carers are involved when a problem is identified.
Equity and diversity	 The organisation caters for the diverse needs of children of all abilities and cultural backgrounds no matter where they live, their religion, age, sex or gender. The strengths and differences of all children are celebrated. The organisation supports and responds to vulnerable children.
Staff and volunteers	 It is clear how the organisation recruits and conducts checks on staff and volunteers. There is ongoing supervision and support for staff and volunteers. Staff feel comfortable to raise any concerns about the behaviour of other staff members or volunteers or other areas for improvement.



Principles	Action areas
Complaint processes	 The complaints system is clear, child friendly and children are comfortable to use it. Children and young people are asked to give feedback on their experiences. Staff can give examples of when a child or young person made a complaint and how it was handled.
Education	 □ Staff and volunteers are educated about spotting the signs of child abuse. □ Staff know what to do if a child talks about abuse. □ Information is given to children about their rights, protective behaviours and online safety. □ Information about child safety is offered to parents and family members.
Safe environments	 ☐ The physical environment is safe and checked regularly. ☐ Children can be seen at all times and in all places. ☐ There are clear rules about communicating with children online or via phones and devices.
Continuous improvement	 □ The organisation regularly reviews the way it does things and shares this information with parents. □ The organisation is audited regularly internally or externally. □ Children, young people and families are involved in reviews and audits.
Policies	 □ There is a Code of Conduct for staff and volunteers. □ There are rules for behaviour of all children. □ There are guidelines about physical contact between adults and children and between children.