



Network Update

November 2016

Worker Safety Checking

Schools will be aware of the need to comply with legislation set out by the Vulnerable Children Act 2014 (VCA). This includes having a Child Protection Policy in place and compliance with safety checking and Police vetting requirements as per an implementation timeline (see Ministry of Education [website information](#) and [What checks do I need to undertake for adults coming into my school or kura?](#)).

As specified organisations, EOTC and Camp providers are also captured by the legislation. Providers need to plan and implement a framework of worker safety checking their children's workers as per the timeline.

Schools should:

- Ask the providers they intend contracting if worker safety checks are already conducted with their staff. *There is an embedding period for compliance to the legislation but a number of providers are not aware of needing to comply and don't know where to look for information. If a provider doesn't know about worker safety checking we are happy for you to refer them to us at office@eonz.org.nz.*
- Notify current and potential school contractors of the school's Child Protection Policy and the need for contractors to comply.

School Responsibilities around the Adventure Regulations

The Health and Safety at Work (Adventure Activities Regulations) 2016 have been in place for some time. Prior to their location within the Health and Safety at Work Act (2015) they were named the Adventure Activities Regulations 2011.

You may not have been aware that your school has a responsibility to understand the regulations from within the context of your programmes, or that there had been an update since they were first released.

A dedicated EONZ website page [linked here](#) provides current information for adventure activities. It is a good place to go to find out what your school responsibilities are around the regulations.

Schools must know if ANY of their activities falls within the regulations.