



Children & Young People Act 2008

The new *Children and Young People Act 2008*: Helping children and young people be safe, supported and valued by the community. Information from the Office for Children, Youth and Family Support, ACT Department of Disability, Housing and Community Services.

Thank you for participating in this information initiative about the *Children and Young People Act 2008*.

Welcome to the 3rd stage of the *Children and Young People Act 2008*!

A smooth transition for the 3rd stage of the *Act* has occurred. These areas include Childcare Services, Research, the Children and Youth Services Council and Community Youth Justice provisions. This now means that all provisions of the *Act* are in operation excluding Chapter 21, which will begin in July 2009.

Congratulations to all who have been involved and are now operating under the *Children and Young People Act 2008*. What a great accomplishment!

Employment of Children and Young People (Ch 21)

Many children and young people and their families benefit from work and work experience. It is the intention of Government to promote the benefits of employment while ensuring there are safety measures that protect and promote the best interests of the children and young people.

The employment provisions of the *Children and Young People Act 1999* will stay in place until July 2009, when the new *Act* will commence.

The new *Children and Young People Act 2008* requires the development of employment and work experience standards, light work regulations and a high risk declaration.

A Discussion Paper – 'Employment of Children and Young People in the ACT' will be released in the next few weeks. The Discussion Paper invites community comment about proposed regulations and standards under the new *Children and Young People Act 2008* relating to the employment of children and young people. Your comments will be valuable to assist in this process.





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Reminders

We welcome any feedback you may wish to provide us. If, at any point you decide that you do not wish to be provided with this information, please do not hesitate to contact us and we will ensure that you are removed from the distribution list.

Remember that primary sources are always a good start, so try checking out the *Act* directly at www.dhcs.act.gov.au/OCYFS/legislation.

If you have any questions please contact:

Kathryn Elton, Senior Project Officer
Department of Disability, Housing & Community Services
kathryn.elton@act.gov.au (02) 6207 5294

