

GUIDE 2: CLASSIFYING AND CONTEXTUALISING A YOUTH PROTECTION EVENT/INCIDENT

The classification and contextualisation of a Youth Protection Event/Incident is a five-step process in which the impact on youth, perceived intent, nature and context of the event/incident are considered.

Note: The event/incident Class selected in step 4 may be changed at any time, for example, if facts obtained during any investigation changes the assessments made during steps 1 to 3.

STEP 1 - IMPACT ON YOUTH

Using the descriptors below, identify the highest impact on involved youth as a direct result of a youth protection event/incident.

Min Class	Impact on Youth
A	Severe Impact on Youth Child Abuse (including the sub categories mentioned in step 3) and/or other very serious misconduct that results in a fatality, serious injury or severe stress/trauma requiring hospital admission and/or ongoing medical/psychological or other professional support.
B	Major Impact on Youth Persistent sexual harassment and/or sex/gender discrimination or other serious misconduct that results in serious injury or major stress/trauma requiring medical/psychological attention and/or professional support
C	Minor Impact on Youth Isolated sexual harassment or other misconduct that results in minor injury or stress/trauma requiring first aid/youth mental health first aid and/or local support
D	Negligible Impact on Youth Inappropriate sexual remark or other misconduct that does not result in injury but causes negligible stress/trauma

STEP 2 - PERCEIVED INTENT

Using the descriptors below, identify the perceived intent of youth protection event/incident directed towards involved youth.

Min Class	Perceived Intent
A	Severe Intent The intent was to seriously harm or exploit the youth for personal benefit
B	Major Intent The intent was to cause ongoing harm or stress to the youth
C	Minor Intent The intent was to cause isolated harm or stress to the youth
D	No Intent There was no intent to cause harm or stress to the youth

STEP 3 - NATURE OF YOUTH PROTECTION EVENTS/INCIDENTS

Using the descriptors below, identify the nature of the youth protection event/incident. Consider the relevant context, including whether:

- there was a real or perceived power imbalance
- where appropriate, the unacceptable behaviour/misconduct has been persistent or is isolated

Min Class	Nature of Youth Protection Events/Incidents	
	Sexual Misconduct	Other Misconduct
A	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Child Abuse# Includes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Child Sexual Abuse ○ Sexual Exploitation ○ Grooming ○ Unacceptable Sexual Relationship • Child Exploitation Material 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Child Abuse# includes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Physical Abuse ○ Emotional/Psychological Abuse ○ Neglect (Severe, Persistent and Isolated) ○ Exposure to Family/Domestic Violence • Abuse of Power and Authority • Prohibited Substance Offence or Use • Alcohol Offence • Classify other misconduct based on Steps 1 & 2
B	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sexual Harassment (Persistent) • Sex/Gender Discrimination 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Physical Harassment (Persistent) • Emotional Harassment (Persistent) • Other Discrimination (Persistent) • Bullying • Alcohol Indiscretion • Youth Protection Policy Breach (Significant) • Classify other misconduct based on Steps 1 & 2
C	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sexual Harassment (Isolated) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Physical Harassment (Isolated) • Emotional Harassment (Isolated) • Other Discrimination (Isolated) • Youth Protection Policy Breach (Major) • Classify other misconduct based on Steps 1 & 2
D	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Inappropriate Sexual Remark 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Inappropriate Non-Sexual Physical Contact • Inappropriate Non-Sexual Remark • Youth Protection Policy Breach (Minor) • Classify other misconduct based on Steps 1 & 2

- Child abuse includes a number of sub-categories in the sexual misconduct and other misconduct columns

Refer to Definitions of Unacceptable Behaviour in a Defence Youth Protection Context (Section 2, Chapter 2, annex C)

STEP 4 – YOUTH PROTECTION EVENT/INCIDENT CLASS

Select the highest event classification determined in Steps 1 to 3; this is the overall event classification.

STEP 5 – YOUTH PROTECTION EVENT/INCIDENT CONTEXT

Select whether the youth protection event/incident occurred in a Defence or Family/Community context.

Defence Context If answer 'Yes' to ANY of the following	Community or Family/Domestic Context If answer 'Yes' to ALL of the following:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Did the alleged youth protection event/incident occur within the defence environment? • Is the alleged victim an ADF or Defence APS youth (excluding ADF Cadets)? • Is the alleged respondent an ADF, Defence APS member or contractor/volunteer/visitor to Defence*? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Did the alleged youth protection event/incident occur outside the Defence environment? • Is the victim a civilian (non-ADF or APS member)? • Is the alleged respondent a member of the community with no association with Defence?

*Includes a participant in a Defence Youth Program, including ADF Cadets and Defence Work Experience