

Standard 4:

Equity is upheld and diverse needs are taken into account

Adam Foster (Lewis Holdway Lawyers)

- This national standard seeks to address or redress the failure of institutions to protect children from vulnerable backgrounds, namely that children from indigenous backgrounds, children with disabilities, or children from destructive families.
- According to the Commission, there was clear evidence from their hearings that demonstrated that institutions had failed to "*actively anticipate children's diverse circumstances and respond effectively to those [children] with additional vulnerabilities.*"

How it impacts organisations?

The standard will require that:

(a) All Children (and/or parents and guardians) have access to information, support and complaints process.

(b) The institution pay particular attention to the needs of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children, children with disabilities, and children from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds.

What practical steps people can apply today?

- Implement a review of your policies
- Consider whether you are using effective and correct types of communication