



**Children and Young People
with Disability Australia**

The National Redress Scheme

Information for you

Easy Read version





How to use this document



Children and Young People with Disability Australia (CYDA) wrote this document. When you see the words 'we' or 'us', it means CYDA.



We have written this document in an easy to read way.

We use pictures to explain some ideas.



We want to warn you that some of this information is about child sexual abuse.

It can be very hard to read about, or talk about, child sexual abuse.

It can bring up difficult feelings and memories.



You can ask for help to read this document.

A friend, family member or support person may be able to help you.



We have written some words in **bold**.

We explain what these words mean.

There is a list of these words on page 15.



This Easy Read document is a summary of information from our website.



You can find the other information on our website at www.cyda.org.au/national-redress-scheme

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What is child sexual abuse?



Child sexual abuse is when a person younger than 18 is included in sexual acts that they:

- don't agree to do
- don't want to do
- are too young to understand.



Child sexual abuse is:

- a crime
- never the child's fault.

What is the National Redress Scheme?



The National Redress Scheme is for people who have experienced child sexual abuse by a person who worked for an **institution**.

We call it the Redress Scheme.

An institution is any group or organisation set up:



- by the government
- for a religion
- for education
- to run a business
- to help people.



Examples of institutions include:

- schools
- churches and religious groups
- scouts and guides
- sports clubs
- child care services
- orphanages and foster care.



Over the past few years, there was a Royal Commission into child sexual abuse in institutions.



This was a large and formal investigation that looked into what happened to children who were abused.



The Royal Commission said that the government should set up the Redress Scheme.

The Redress Scheme:



- started on 1 July 2018



- will end on 30 June 2028.



The Redress Scheme is available to you if you were sexually abused:

- as a child
- and
- by a person who worked at an institution or organisation



The Redress Scheme can only help you if the institution where the abuse happened has joined the Redress Scheme.



Institutions that have joined the Redress Scheme include:

- state and territory governments
- the Catholic church
- the Anglican church
- the Uniting church
- Scouts
- Salvation Army
- YMCA.

You can find out which institutions have joined the Redress Scheme:



- on the National Redress Scheme website – www.nationalredress.gov.au
- by asking us.

What does the Redress Scheme offer?



Redress is a way of trying to make things right.

The Redress Scheme can offer you 3 things:



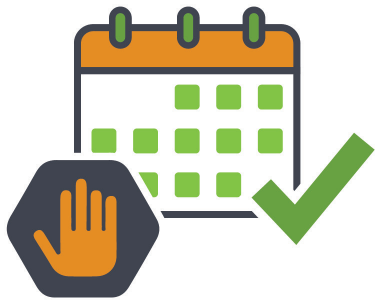
- **Counselling and psychological care** where you can:
 - talk to someone about how you think and feel
 - find out ways to help you feel better.



- A payment of up to \$150,000. But most people who get a payment are given about \$76,000.



- The institution where the abuse happened will contact you.



They may apologise and will:

- accept that the child sexual abuse happened
- say how they will stop it in the future.



You can choose one or all 3 of these things.

How does the Redress Scheme work?

To get help from the Redress Scheme, you will need to apply.



You must be:

- an Australian citizen
- a permanent resident.

The child sexual abuse must have happened before:



- you turned 18
- 1 July 2018 – when the Redress Scheme started.



You can still apply for the Redress Scheme if you are under 18 with the help of your parent or carer.



But you need to turn 18 before the Redress Scheme ends in 2028.

How can CYDA help?

At CYDA, we can:



- give you information about the Redress Scheme



- help you to apply for the Redress Scheme



- offer you support



- connect you with other services you need.



We will try to get support that meets your needs.

We can help you find:



- counselling services – someone who can:
 - help you with how you think and feel
 - give you ways to help you feel better



- legal services – someone who can help you know your rights and understand the law



- financial services – someone who can help you with your money if you get a payment.



Our services are free.



We will keep any information you share with us private.

How can I get more information about the Redress Scheme?



You can contact the National Redress Scheme for more information.

1800 737 377



www.nationalredress.gov.au



You can contact knowmore – a free service that can give you legal advice about the Redress Scheme.

1800 605 762



<http://knowmore.org.au/redress-and-justice/redress-scheme>

Word list

Child sexual abuse



When a person younger than 18 is included in sexual acts that they:

- don't want to do
- don't agree to do
- are too young to understand.



Child sexual abuse is:

- a crime
- never the child's fault.

Institution

Any organisation set up:



- by the government
- for a religion
- for education
- for sport or recreation
- to run a business
- to help people

Counselling and psychological care



Where you can:

- talk to someone about how you think and feel
- find out ways to help you feel better.



Redress

A way of trying to make things right.

Contact us



(03) 9417 1025

Monday to Friday 9am to 5pm



1800 222 660 from country Victoria
or other states



info@cyda.org.au



PO Box 172

CLIFTON HILL

VIC 3068



www.cyda.org.au



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