



AISNSW CHILD PROTECTION AND SAFEGUARDING CONFERENCE 2025

Building a Safe and Supportive School Environment – A Collective Responsibility



Friday 29 August, 2025

Aerial UTS Function Centre

#AISNSW

8:30am	Registration
9:00am	Welcome to Country Uncle Ray Conference welcome
9:30am - 10:15am	Peer to Peer Problematic and Harmful Sexual Behaviours Miranda Bain , Act for Kids' Director of Therapy & Specialist Services This presentation explores evidence-based approaches to addressing peer-on-peer harmful sexual behaviours, highlighting the rise in online and in-person incidents. Through a school case study, a demonstration of the importance of holistic assessment, safety planning, and collaborative, systemic responses to support affected children and young people.
10:15am - 10:30am	MORNING TEA
10:30am - 11:15am	Keeping Children and Young People Safer Online Kellie Britnell , Manager, Awareness and Capability, eSafety Commissioner This presentation explores the evolving risks of online safety for young people, including the impact of AI, algorithms, and cultural shifts on peer-on-peer abuse and online harms. It offers practical strategies and resources to reduce shame, support disclosures, and foster safer environments in schools and communities. This presentation will conclude with a brief Q&A.
11:20am - 11:50am	An Overview of Child Sexual Abuse in Youth-serving Organisations Professor Benoit Leclerc , Director, Griffith Youth Forensic Service (GYFS) This presentation examines evidence-based insights into child sexual abuse in youth-serving organisations, focusing on offender behaviours, manipulation tactics, and warning signs. It also explores international prevention strategies informed by research, expert recommendations, and offender perspectives.
11:55am - 12:45pm	Safeguarding Students: Insights, Lessons and Strategies to Prevent Grooming in Schools Dr Amanda Robertson , Adjunct Research Fellow Sarah Kopp , Founder and Educator Step in for Kids This session features Ms Sarah Kopp's powerful personal account of being groomed and abused by a teacher, alongside expert insights from Dr Amanda Robertson, to raise awareness of grooming behaviours and prevention strategies in schools. Aligned with the NSW Child Safe Standards, the discussion offers practical guidance for identifying risks, maintaining professional boundaries, and fostering safer school environments. Participants will also have the opportunity to ask questions of both Ms Kopp and Dr Robertson, fostering a deeper understanding of the issues and strategies discussed.
12:45pm - 1:30pm	LUNCH BREAK
1:30pm - 2:10pm	Implementing Digital Safety in Schools Child Exploitation Internet Unit – NSW Police Force This presentation will focus on the digital and online risk in schools, including online grooming and predators. Experts in this area will discuss the latest threats and best practices for protecting children online. An analysis of a real-life scenario will be used to understand the complexities of digital and online safety and appropriate responses to these risks.
2:10pm - 2:25pm	AFTERNOON TEA BREAK
2:25pm - 3:05pm	Panel Discussion: Safeguarding in Schools: Strategies, Challenges, and Collective Action Miranda Bain , Act for Kids' Director of Therapy and Specialist Services Dr Amanda Robertson , Adjunct Research Fellow Child Exploitation Internet Unit – NSW Police Force Professor Benoit Leclerc , Director, Griffith Youth Forensic Service (GYFS) Discussion of emerging trends in child safety and safeguarding including changes in legislation, societal shifts and new challenges. Hear insights from experts in the field discuss future trends, such as the impact of AI and advanced technologies, online safety and their implications for schools.
3:05pm - 3:15pm	WRAP UP AND CLOSING REMARKS