



New Children's Guardian Act to commence 1 March 2020

22 November 2019

The Children's Guardian Bill was passed in Parliament this week which will see the commencement of the *Children's Guardian Act* on 1 March 2020.

The new Act reinforces the independent role of the Children's Guardian to help keep children and young people safer in organisations.

The *Children's Guardian Act 2019* has consolidated legislation that currently governs the existing functions and responsibilities of the Children's Guardian for accrediting and monitoring adoption service providers and out-of-home care agencies, and regulating children's employment.

The Act expands the functions of Children's Guardian's to now include the reportable conduct scheme and extends it to include the religious and faith-based sector not currently captured under the existing scheme.

In the lead up to the commencement of the new Act the Office of the Children's Guardian will be in contact with organisations in the sector to help them better understand how the new Act will impact on their compliance obligations and improve their capacity to keep children safe.

[Read the media release from Minister Gareth Ward MP \(298KB\)](#)

[Read the Children's Guardian Bill 2019](#)