

# Principles to guide the development of children's education, displays and activities at the Australian War Memorial

01

Companies whose existence depends on wars and threats of wars have no place at the War Memorial.

The AWM has accepted funding from companies like BAE Systems and Lockheed Martin, multinational companies that profit from war and threats of war around the world. Commercial relationships with companies that profit from war threaten the integrity of the memorial's mission.

04

The exhibits must be culturally, and age, appropriate.

Children come from diverse backgrounds – including countries Australia fought against. How such experiences relate to warfare must be considered carefully.

07

The curation of the Memorial's children's exhibits and programs should be guided by an advisory body of people with relevant expertise in children, including their education.

Independent expertise and robust policy should inform programming for children.

02

The War Memorial is not a place for fun but a place for reflection.

Any activities, projects or outreach involving the AWM must not encourage children to believe that war is either exciting or inevitable.

05

Children should be exposed to information about all of Australia's wars, including the Frontier Wars.

For too long, the Memorial has refused to commemorate the wars fought on this land by white settlers against First Nations people.

08

The new children's space at the War Memorial should be an evolving one, with the feedback from, and the opinions of, children and child experts guiding changes.

Children's programming should be responsive, and serve children's best interests.

03

The education of children about war must be honest.

Activities should teach children to recognise the humanity and the suffering of all those involved in wars, both combatants and civilians, and other costs including to the environment.

06

To inspire hope and build understanding, children should be exposed to non-violent ways of settling conflicts between nations, guided by historical examples.

The Memorial can and should have as strong a focus on promoting peace as honouring service in war.



These principles have been developed by the Medical Association for Prevention of War. Read more about these principles in the report *Time to Talk Peace: the AWM and Children*. These principles have been endorsed by the following organisations:

