



## **Catholic Archdiocese of Perth**

### **Safeguarding Commitment Statement**

The Catholic Archdiocese of Perth is committed to providing a safe and secure environment for all its members, leaders, and especially its children and adults at risk. The care, safety and welfare of children and adults at risk is a collective responsibility, embedded in robust policies and practices of the Archdiocese which reflect its zero tolerance to abuse.

We will:

- strive to be an open and inclusive Church where all members including children, adults at risk, families, church workers, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders', the culturally and/or linguistically diverse and those with a disability or additional needs, are welcome and participate fully;
- strive to be a Church where children and adults at risk are fully engaged and have every opportunity to be heard, flourish and grow;
- strive to be a safe place by removing any barriers that will either harm or hinder children and adults at risk;
- strive to ensure that every person engaged and working in the Church actively promotes the inherent dignity of all people by upholding their fundamental right to be included, respected and nurtured in a safe environment;
- seek to maintain high ethical standards in all decisions, actions and programs;
- strive to work in accordance with the National Catholic Safeguarding Standards (NCSS) and the Professional Standards reporting obligations through the implementation of The Safeguarding Handbook;
- abide by Federal and Commonwealth statutory legislation pertaining to the Safeguarding of children and adults at risk.

Creating a safe Church is a dynamic process that involves active participation and responsibility by all leaders, clergy, church workers and the wider church community including parents and families. The Archdiocese is committed to making this possible through collaboration, vigilance and proactive approaches across legislation, policies, procedures and practices.



## **Catholic Archdiocese of Perth**

### **Safeguarding Standards**

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| <b>STANDARD 1</b>  |    | <b>Committed leadership, governance and culture</b><br>Child safeguarding is embedded in the entity's leadership, governance and culture   |
| <b>STANDARD 2</b>  |    | <b>Children are safe, informed and participate</b><br>Children are informed about their rights, participate in decisions affecting them and are taken seriously                                  |
| <b>STANDARD 3</b>  |    | <b>Partnering with families, carers and communities</b><br>Families, carers and communities are informed and involved in promoting child safeguarding  |
| <b>STANDARD 4</b>  |   | <b>Equity is promoted and diversity is respected</b><br>Equity is upheld and diverse needs respected in policy and practice  |
| <b>STANDARD 5</b>  |  | <b>Robust human resource management</b><br>People working with children are suitable and supported to reflect child safeguarding values in practice  |
| <b>STANDARD 6</b>  |  | <b>Effective complaints management</b><br>Processes for raising concerns and complaints are responsive, understood, accessible and used by children, families, carers, communities and personnel |
| <b>STANDARD 7</b>  |  | <b>Ongoing education and training</b><br>Personnel are equipped with knowledge, skills and awareness to keep children safe through information, ongoing education and training                   |
| <b>STANDARD 8</b>  |  | <b>Safe physical and online environments</b><br>Physical and online environments promote safety and contain appropriate safeguards to minimise the opportunity for children to be harmed         |
| <b>STANDARD 9</b>  |  | <b>Continuous improvement</b><br>Entities regularly review and improve implementation of their systems for keeping children safe   |
| <b>STANDARD 10</b> |  | <b>Policies and procedures support child safety</b><br>Policies and procedures document how the entity is safe for children  |