

“Lord Jesus, Hear our voices as we pray for your care and protection. Strengthen and guide us as we strive to make our Catholic communities a safe place for all. Give us the wisdom and courage to listen with open hearts, see with open eyes, and speak out to ensure children and adults are safe, loved, respected, and cared for. We also pray for those who have been harmed. Give them the courage to seek the truth and to heal. Amen “

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From the Director

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NCSS Audit Update June 2024

Preparation work is well underway for the Archdiocese’s inaugural National Catholic Safeguarding Standards (NCSS) Audit, scheduled for 27 August – 6 September this year.

The first stage of preparation involved the completion of an online self-assessment, which was submitted to the auditors at the end of May. This included gathering evidence, selecting an appropriate progress rating and writing journal entries for a series of indicators relating to the 10 National Catholic Safeguarding Standards.

Of the 98 indicators applicable to the Archdiocese, we are pleased to report that 90 indicators were rated “Developed and Embedded” with a 100% progress rating.

The second stage of preparation involves visits from personnel in the Safeguarding Program Office to the parishes, agencies and other Archdiocesan locations selected as part of the audit sample group. Visits have now been made to 50% of parishes participating in the Audit and visits to the remaining locations are on track for completion by the end of July.

These visits help to ensure that Parish Priests, Agency/Office Directors, Chaplains and Safeguarding Officers have all the information and resources they need in preparation for the audit.

All participating locations will also be invited to attend an online forum with the auditors prior to the audit visits. This will provide an opportunity for participants to ask questions directly to the auditing team and find out further information about the site visits. The online forum is expected to be held in late July or early August. Invitations will be sent in the coming weeks.

If you have any questions at all concerning the audit, please contact the Safeguarding Program Office via email at safeguarding@perthcatholic.org.au or phone (08) 92217762.

Regards, **Anthony Coyte**



The Safeguarding Program Office have had a very productive quarter with much time spent on the road conducting training and supporting the preparation for the National Safeguarding Audit.

It is (as always) a privilege to meet with and walk along side those that continue to build a wonderfully positive culture of safety.

The protection of children and adults within the Archdiocese is an ongoing collective responsibility that I know you all take very seriously. We are thankful for all your support.

As we lead into the next phase of our audit preparations and with the implementation of the Archdiocesan Screening and Monitoring Policy it is a time for action, commitment and prayer. Please know the team here are always happy to field your calls and questions so please just ask.

“I have the strength for everything through him who empowers me.” *Philippians 4:13.*

Thank you and God Bless. *Barb Blayney*



SAFEGUARDING LEVEL 1 INDUCTION ONLINE SELF-PACED learning Module!

We are excited to announce that the **SAFEGUARDING LEVEL 1 INDUCTION** is now a **SELF-PACED ONLINE LEARNING MODULE** that can be completed at any time.

This initiative provides greater flexibility in completing the Safeguarding Induction and an easier user-friendly experience. Please go to our [Training Page](#) to check out the Induction.

We encourage you to advertise the New Self-Paced Safeguarding Level 1 Induction to your staff and volunteers. All they need to do is go to our [Training Page](#).

We also encourage you to have a computer at your parish/office available for those who do not have access to IT and wish to complete the session locally. It will take approximately 45 minutes to complete.

We will continue to offer the In-Person sessions if requested – Please book via the [Training Request Booking Form](#).

Respective Parishes, Agencies and Offices will still receive notification from the Safeguarding Office or those who have completed training.



Monday 1 July 2024 is our inaugural WWC Day and you're invited to join in-person event at our Boorloo Campus in Perth.

In the morning the Screening Unit are holding a **Ready, Check, GO!** information session for new organisations

representatives that will cover all aspects of the WWC Check including how to know who needs a Check and organisational obligations under the legislation.

In the afternoon they will be running **Explore the Check** for sector specific peak bodies allowing organisations to share their experiences.

For more information and to register please go to our [WWC Eventbrite page](#).

LIVE LEARNING

ACSL
AUSTRALIAN CATHOLIC SAFEGUARDING LTD
A safe Church for everyone

Kayelene Kerr, founder of eSafeKids presents:

Cyber Safety & Digital Wellness

21 June 2024
2.00pm - 3.30pm AEST



Format: Online session via Zoom
Date: 21 June 2024
Time: 2.00pm - 3.30pm, AEST
Cost: This session is free of charge for paid Subscribers of ACSL.
\$65 per person for non-Subscribers



Presented by **Kayelene Kerr**, founder of eSafeKids, this workshop is filled with up-to-date information, real world examples, practical strategies, conversation starters and resource recommendations to support cyber safety and digital wellness of children and young people.

Register your interest by email to safeguarding@perthcatholic.org.au

Please note that this session will not be recorded, so you are highly encouraged to attend on the day and take advantage of this e-safety webinar.

GIRRAWHEEN CELEBRATES SAFEGUARDING EXCELLENCE



The Girrawheen Safeguarding Team was honoured with the prestigious SAAT 2023 Excellence Award on last Sunday during Mass at the Parish. This accolade recognises the exceptional collective safeguarding efforts of the parish. Led by **Fr Albert Saminedi**, the Girrawheen Safeguarding Team have worked hard to achieve the excellent implementation of the National Catholic Safeguarding Standards in the community.

Most Reverend Fr Vincent Glynn, who was the main celebrant, highlighted the team's vital role in ensuring Safeguarding during the ceremony. The award sets

a benchmark for other church communities, showcasing how a dedicated team can create a safe environment.

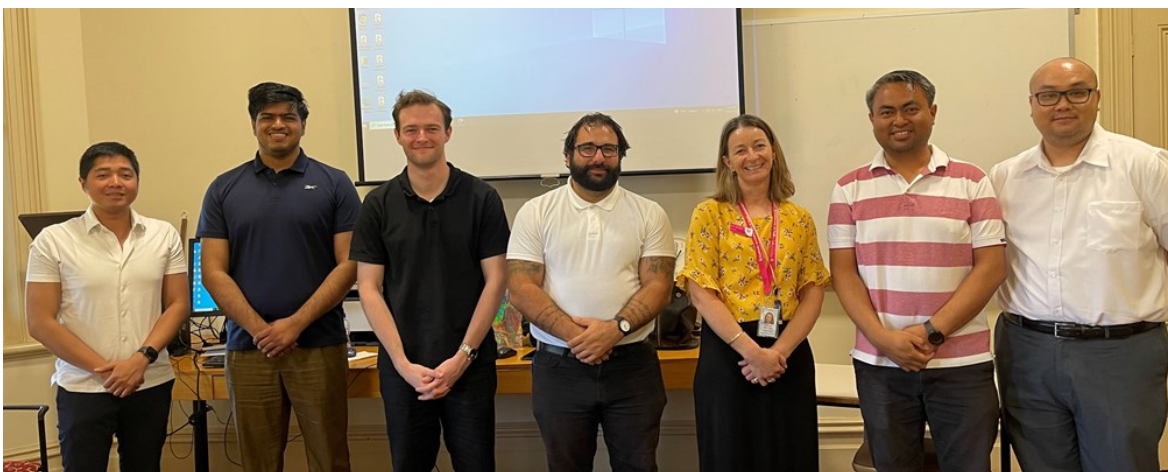
Barbara Blayney, the Safeguarding Office Director, in her address stated that "not only did the parish complete the SAAT 2023, but they have also been proactive in identifying gaps or areas for improvement through a comprehensive Standards Action Plan which they have built from the SAAT."

In closing the award ceremony, Fr Albert Saminedi emphasized the collective effort behind their success, stating, "This award is for everyone who has supported our mission. Safeguarding is a community effort!"

The Mass concluded with a safeguarding prayer and with a warm round of applause from the congregation.



CONGRATULATIONS TO THE GIRRAWHEEN SAFEGUARDING TEAM FOR THEIR WELL-DESERVED RECOGNITION!



ST CHARLES SEMINARY

Safeguarding for Seminarian Training

Tuesday, 13 February 2024



Advocare

Empowering older people in WA

On Wednesday, 5 June 2024, Fr Patrick Toohey of Embleton Parish hosted the **Elder Abuse Awareness** event which was a collaboration between the Safeguarding Program and Advocare. The session helped to raise awareness of Elder Abuse and the Care Finders Program Initiative.

As part of our safeguarding commitment events such as this highlight the need to safeguard all members of our church community and better understand the needs of those most vulnerable. .

Advocare is a leader in addressing the rights for older people and elder abuse. The not-for-profit organisation has been providing such services for more than 25 years.

During the event, Advocare presented topics on Elder Abuse, Access to Aged Care and in particular the Care Finders Program.

The Care Finder Program specifically helps vulnerable older Australians who need intensive assistance to access aged care, supports due to risk of homelessness, the socially or financially disadvantaged, support to the elders who have communication issues due to language barriers or learning difficulties, and support in understanding information before making decisions about aged care choices.

We would like to thank **Sarina Roose and David Thompson from Advocare** for their kind collaboration and support in delivering a very informative and engaging session.

To find out more, please contact **Advocare at 9479 7566** or visit their website www.advocare.org.au

Elder Abuse Helpline : 1300 724 679



WALK FREE, FAITH FOR FREEDOM PHONE APP LAUNCH

Global Freedom Network, the faith-based arm of human rights organisation Walk Free, launched the Western Australian version of its Faith for Freedom smartphone app on the 24th April.

The app is an educational tool for faith leaders, clergy and their staff to help identify modern slavery and safeguard their communities. The WA profile of the app offers an array of resources for faith leaders and other stakeholders. Including case studies, definitions, prayers, support hotlines and the latest statistics from Walk Free's pioneering research on modern slavery.

The Western Australian collaboration began in 2023, spearheaded by Perth Catholic Archbishop Timothy Costelloe SDB and Anglican Archbishop Kay Goldsworthy AO.

Thomas Law represented the Safeguarding Program Office in attending the launch.



Vietnamese Youth Group Catholic Community – Safeguarding Week
18 May 2024

**Safeguarding Level 2 Training—
Onboarding Safeguarding Officers
4 May 2024**

- Paul CARPENTER — Subiaco Parish
- Justine HOWARD — Scarborough Parish
- Anthony WALSH — Scarborough Parish
- Carole CONSTANCE — Canning Vale Parish
- Agnes DE ROZARIO — Yangebup Parish
- Jeffrey TAN — Yangebup Parish
- Andrea CLEMENTE — Whitford Parish



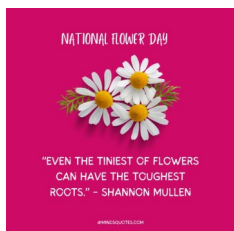
Safeguarding for Tertiary Students
17 February 2024



Mother's Day Celebration
with a Safeguarding Theme
at Cottesloe Parish



Safeguarding Level 1 Induction at Woodvale Parish—20 April 2024



Safeguarding Program and WAPSO celebrated National Flower Day on 21 March.

