

# SAFEGUARDING NEWS



OCTOBER 2024

care | protect | act



The Safeguarding office was established in May 2017 for the purpose of supporting, strengthening and embedding a safeguarding culture. Raising awareness regarding our collective responsibility to protect the safety, well being and dignity of all within our Diocese.

## Safeguarding Office :



02 6621 9444



[www.lismorediocese.org](http://www.lismorediocese.org)



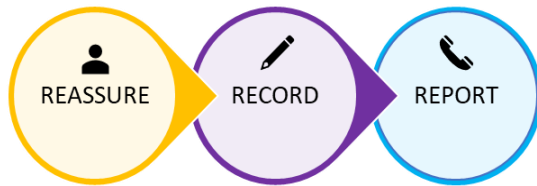
[safeguarding@lismore.catholic.org.au](mailto:safeguarding@lismore.catholic.org.au)

## From the Safeguarding Team

### Disclosure what do I do?:

For those of you whom have participated in the revised Safeguarding Awareness Training you would have been reminded of the 3 R's.

## 3 R's PROCESS



**Reassure:** The person that they were right to tell you, and you will help by passing this information on to the appropriate authorities (disclosures cannot remain a secret).

**Record:** Make a record at the time or as soon as possible—whilst best remembered.

**Report:** Report all Safeguarding concerns to your Parish Priest, Supervisor, Manager, or the Safeguarding Office. All legal reporting obligations must be complied with, you can seek advice and support from the Safeguarding Office.



Julie Patston  
Safeguarding Manager



Christine Thompson  
Education and Compliance Officer

## Awareness Days -

### November

1-30: November

32 Sun Ord Time: Prison Sunday

13: World Kindness Day

19: International Men's Day

20: UNICEF World Children's Day

23-1: Social Inclusion Week

### December

3: International Day of People with a Disability

5: International Volunteer Day

6: St Nicholas Feast Day

10: UN Human Rights Day

18: International Migrants Day

20: International Solidarity Day

25: Christmas Day



**"We all have the duty to do good"**  
- Pope Francis



NSW Police Force



NSW Police Force

Make a report to police if the matter involves conduct towards a child that you suspect may be criminal in nature.

For emergencies call **000**

For police assistance and general enquiries call **131 444**



Department of Communities and Justice (DCJ)



Communities and Justice

Make a report to DCJ if you suspect a child is at risk of significant harm.

Types of abuse include neglect, sexual, physical and emotional.

Call the Child Protection Helpline on **132 111**



Reportable Conduct Scheme



Office of the Children's Guardian

Notify reportable allegations against staff, certain volunteers and contractors within 7 working days.

For advice and support contact **02 8219 3800**

[reportableconduct@ocg.nsw.gov.au](mailto:reportableconduct@ocg.nsw.gov.au)



## Safe Physical and Online Environments :

**Physical and online environments promote safety and contain appropriate safeguards to minimise the opportunity for children and adults to be harmed.**

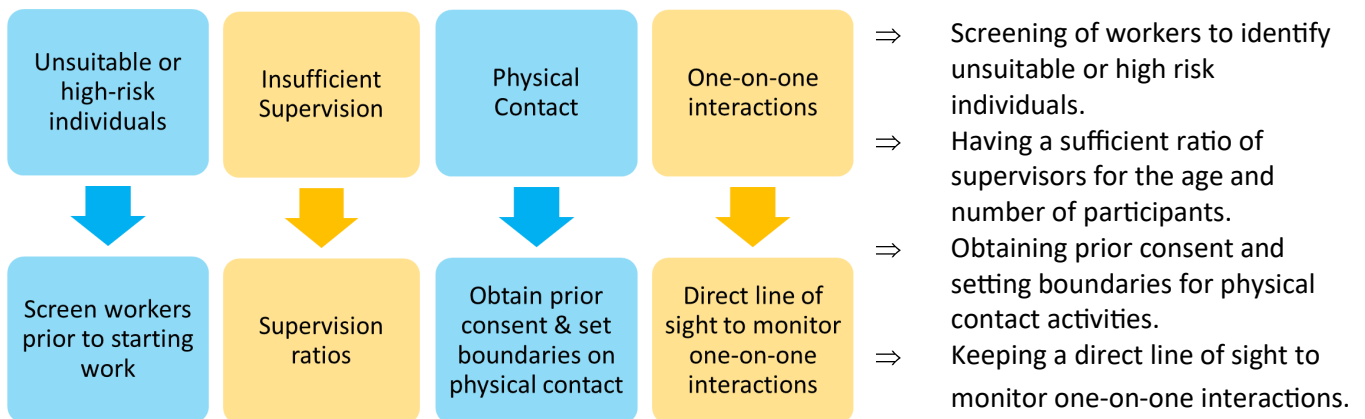
**Standard 8** of the Australian Catholic Safeguarding Standards focuses on organisations responsibilities to minimise opportunities for abuse to occur, both in physical and online environments.

The Diocese of Lismore Code of Conduct and Safeguarding Children, Young Persons & Adults at Risk Policy outlines appropriate supervision, oversight and behaviour towards children and adults at risk. To view these polices please contact your Parish or the Safeguarding Office.

**Risk Management Plans** :- Safeguarding Risk assessments must be conducted on all activities provided within the Diocese that involve children, young people and adults at risk. A Risk Register for each must be kept at the Parish, reviewed and updated (if required) annually if not before. Contact the Safeguarding Office for assistance with developing Risk Management Plans.

Risk Management Plans can assist to identify Abuse Risk and Controls;

### Abuse Risks and Controls



## Embedding Safeguarding in our Diocese:

**Annual Safeguarding Checklist;** This checklist was emailed out to Parishes on the 3rd of September. Please complete and return to the Safeguarding Office prior to your self-assessment visit.

**Safeguarding Self Assessment and Continuous Improvement;** Annual Safeguarding Self-Assessment reviews for Parishes have begun, please contact Christine to arrange your Parish Assessment visit.  
[cthompson@lismore.catholic.org.au](mailto:cthompson@lismore.catholic.org.au)

**Parish News Supporting one another;** The Safeguarding Office acknowledges all of you whom guide your Parishes to embed safeguarding practices, you are transforming your parishes culture. Remember your Self Care, fill your cup, you are not alone in this journey "Safeguarding is Everyone's Responsibility".

*The Safeguarding Office would like to say thank you for ensuring your Parish and our Diocese Culture towards Safeguarding is a positive approach to the protection and safety for all.*  
**The Safeguarding Team**



**"We all have the duty to do good"**  
 - Pope Francis

## Embedding Safeguarding in our Diocese:

Parish News Continued; National Child Protection Week saw the Port Macquarie Parish welcome entries for a Colouring in Completion, with a prize for a child under 16 and a prize for an adult.

### National Child Protection Week: 1-7 September 2024 Colouring Competition

To highlight the need for ongoing awareness about Safeguarding, especially during National Child Protection Week, the Parish Learning & Development team are running a colouring competition (open to children and adults).

Competition closes Friday 20 September with a prize for a child under 16 and an adult. **So get creative and enter today!**

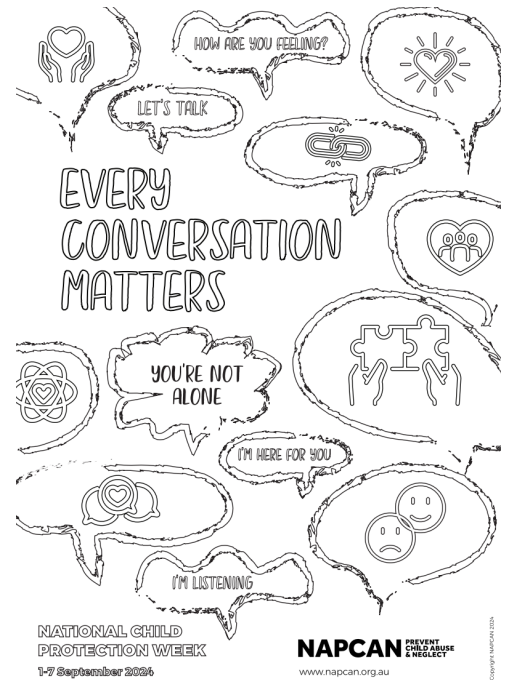
#### About the competition

Click [here](#) (or on the image) to download your printable entry for colouring.

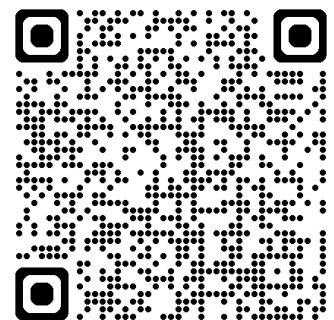


- Entries using creative colour and design are encouraged.
- Completed entries can be given to Denise at PAC Reception, a Manager in a service, or directly to Learning & Development in the JHI office.
- The 2 winning entries, to be confirmed by Tony Leahy & Fr Paul, will be featured in the E NEWS and distributed throughout Parish services.

*Remember, safeguarding the vulnerable is everybody's business.*



The Winners are: St Agnes Parish had 3 entries that received a winning prize. 2 winners in the under 16's entry and 1 winner in the over 16's entry. Scan the QR code which will take you to the full news article.



Colouring Competition highlights the importance of Safeguarding.

The Catholic Diocese of Lismore Safeguarding Office can be contactable if you have any Safeguarding concerns, We will listen to you respectfully and offer support.

Contact the Safeguarding Office Phone: (02) 6621 9444 or Email: [safeguarding@lismore.catholic.org.au](mailto:safeguarding@lismore.catholic.org.au)