



Safeguarding News

December 2019

Hi, I'd like to take this opportunity to introduce myself. My name is Jane Lace and I was recently appointed Safeguarding Co-ordinator for the Sisters of Saint Joseph. I commenced in this role on 18 September and work three days per week, usually Monday to Wednesday. I am absolutely thrilled to be working here with you. I am very fortunate to be working closely with Sr Mary Quinlan, who is a wealth of knowledge and a fabulous support.

If I haven't yet had the privilege of meeting you, please feel free to introduce yourself to me. I'm based at 9 Mount Street, North Sydney (CAC) and share a work space with the lovely Eileen Evans.

My previous work experience has included working in the aged care and disability sector within Area Health Services and managing an adoption team with a not-for-profit organisation. However, the majority of my career has predominantly been spent managing investigative child protection teams which involved a collaboration of government bodies.

Most people would be aware of the recent Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse, which was announced in November 2012. The Royal Commission was directed to focus on systemic issues, be informed by an understanding of individual cases, and make findings and recommendations to better protect children against sexual abuse and alleviate the impact of abuse on children when it occurs. The Royal Commission did this by conducting public hearings, private sessions and a policy and research program. The final report and recommendations were released in December 2017.

The Royal Commission released ten child safe standards which are to be implemented. The first of these standards is: **Child safety is embedded in institutional leadership, governance and culture.**

This effectively means that organisations publicly commit to the safeguarding of children and that the safeguarding of children is every person's responsibility within the organisation. The safeguarding of children is to be reflected in all that we do and obvious to all. This is a great place for us to start and reflect on how we do this well and how there may be ways in which we may improve in this area.

I look forward to working with you and encouraging you to continue keeping the safeguarding of children at the forefront of our conscious awareness via future updates.

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