



Safeguarding News

July 2020

Greetings all,

We are now becoming more accustomed to our new way of life, living in a world with COVID-19. Although the changes to our world occurred suddenly, I am grateful for the learnings which have come from this experience. Social restrictions are gradually easing, and we re-enter the world during the winter season, which is fabulous for those of us who love snow skiing!

Back in March 2020, Sr Monica released the YouTube presentation in relation to the Congregational Child Safeguarding Commitment Statement. I am hopeful that you have had the opportunity to watch this YouTube presentation and reflected on our Child Safeguarding Commitment Statement. It is important that all who work and are in relationship with SOSJ become familiar with these child safeguarding commitments. All future SOSJ employees and volunteers will be encouraged to become familiar with the Child Safeguarding Commitment Statement, as this shall also become embedded within our recruitment processes.

We have now made some slight changes to the SOSJ public website, where the title 'Safeguarding' can be found on the top right navigation bar. From there, you will see the term 'Safeguarding Commitment' and we have included both the condensed and the full version Child Safeguarding Commitment Statements and the Reflective Questions which relate to such. This is helpful for the wider community to be aware of our commitment to child safeguarding and our zero tolerance of child abuse and mistreatment.

We have been working on the development of a number of SOSJ Safeguarding policies. More information on these policies as they become refined and endorsed.

In the last safeguarding edition, I encouraged you to view a YouTube video titled: "Introducing CPSL" which provides a brief introduction to the safeguarding standards. I hope you found this video interesting and informative. In this safeguarding edition, I would encourage you to watch another YouTube video titled "What is a child safe institution?". This video goes for less than two minutes and captures an interview between renowned Australian journalist Geraldine Doogue and former Commissioner with the Royal Commission into Institutionalised responses to child sexual abuse, Robert Fitzgerald. You can access this YouTube video by clicking [here](#).

I am happy to chat with anyone further in relation to any questions or concerns you have in relation to child safeguarding. I can be contacted via email or telephone listed below.

Jane Lace
Safeguarding Coordinator
Ph: +61 2 8912 2760
childsafeguarding@sosj.org.au

