

## Safeguarding News

### November 2024

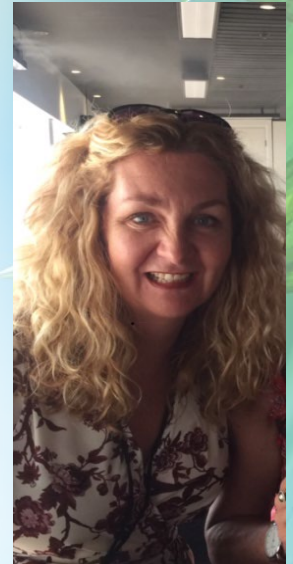
Greetings all,

Welcome to your Safeguarding HeartBeat segment.

#### Child Friendly Safeguarding Commitment Statement

You may recall the Congregational safeguarding audit was conducted by Australia Catholic Safeguarding Limited (ACSL) at the end of 2023. During this audit, we committed to developing a 'child friendly' version of the Congregational Safeguarding Commitment Statement. After much collaborative work and consultation, the 'child friendly' Safeguarding Commitment Statement is now complete and publicly available. You will find a copy of this 'child friendly' Safeguarding Commitment Statement at the following places:

1. Printed and on display in the foyer of # 9 Mount Street, North Sydney
2. Printed and on display in the following locations at Mary MacKillop Place, North Sydney:
  - a. The café
  - b. The chapel
  - c. The museum
  - d. The foyer of Anderledy Lodge
3. Uploaded to the SOSJ public website, under the 'Safeguarding & Professional Standards' pod
4. Uploaded to the SOSJ staff SPIRIT Intranet, under the 'Safeguarding' pod



### SOSJ Safeguarding Policy Review

Thank you to all who contributed to the review of the SOSJ Child Safeguarding Policy. I appreciate your reflections on this policy, and the considered comments sent through to me. I hope to present the draft SOSJ Adult and Child Safeguarding Policy to the Congregational Safeguarding Committee for their review and endorsement at the November meeting. Following this, the policy will be tabled for the consideration and approval of the Congregational Leadership Team and then made publicly available.

### SOSJ Child Safeguarding Code of Conduct Review

We now turn our attention to the review of the SOSJ Child Safeguarding Code of Conduct, and I invite you to reflect upon this document (which you can find on SPIRIT and the SOSJ public website), and send any suggested amendments, inclusions, redactions, which you would like to see in relation to the document.

Similarly, following the review and approval of the revised document, we will all be required to re-sign our commitment to the newly revised Safeguarding Code of Conduct. So, this is your opportunity to make this document relevant to you!

### #NOV18WORLDDAY

The United Nations has declared that 18 November as the **Word Day for the Prevention of, and Healing from Child Sexual Exploitation, Abuse and Violence.**

The Global Collaborative is a survivor-led network of child advocacy organisations, survivor networks, academic and faith-based institutions, and governments which is committed to ending child sexual abuse and supporting victims and survivors of childhood trauma in their healing. This international day of observance aims to:

- raise awareness of the global public health crisis of child sexual abuse, exploitation, and trafficking
- educate the public on steps to protect children online, at home, and in their communities
- advocate for resources for victims and survivors. Promote interventions designed to prevent intergenerational trauma, and
- promote public policy for prevention and protection of children from predators.

You can learn more about this Global movement and how to get involved by clicking [here](#).

I invite you to contact me should you have any safeguarding questions or matters you would like to discuss. I can be contacted by phone, email, or the old-fashioned way – in person!

Take care,

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