



SAFEGUARDING NEWSLETTER

Catholic Archdiocese of Perth
VOLUME 6 ISSUE 2/ March 2023



“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. May we all strive to understand our collective responsibility to work together to safeguard our Catholic communities. We ask this through Christ, our Lord, Amen “

This Issue :

From the Director

Upcoming Dates

Aboriginal Catholic Ministry Support

Snippet from Working With Children Screening Unit

2023 Child Protection Week - Save the Date

Welcoming New Safeguarding Officers

Out and About



Hello all and welcome to issue #2 for 2023. The Safeguarding Program Team have spent much of the last quarter finalising the Safeguarding Activities Assessment Tool (SAAT). We have had a huge improvement for the 2022 parish submissions - up 21%! If you need any support or ideas to improve the implementation of Safeguarding..... please ask - we can pop out to see you anytime.

The Safeguarding Inductions are being well attended with 443 people trained so far in 2023.

If you have church workers (paid/unpaid) that are yet to attend a Safeguarding Induction, please [visit our website](#) to book. Sessions are available each month via ZOOM or we can host a session onsite - just book using the [TRAINING BOOKING FORM](#).

There is important information from the WWCC Screening Unit and other interesting reads in this newsletter.

Happy reading and thank you for your continued support. - **Barb Blayney** -

We Support Each Other

New Safeguarding Porch Poster

The new design is simpler and easy to follow and contains updated photos of your Safeguarding Officers as well as relevant contact information. Poster has been sent to parishes. Please display it in your church foyer/porch area. If you have not seen your new poster, check with the parish secretary or parish priest. **We hope you like it.**

Screening and Monitoring DATABASE Template

A new template has been designed to assist you with record keeping at your parish/agency. Please note this database template is 'suggested use' and designed to assist you to hold the relevant information required from a Safeguarding Screening and Monitoring perspective. Template is available at <https://safeguarding.perthcatholic.org.au/#> **We hope you find it helpful.**



Sample Website Inclusion

A sample Safeguarding wording/blurb is available for use on your local website. This will help to access the most up-to-date and relevant Safeguarding Information. We recommend you update the Safeguarding section of your local website with this sample wording, available from our office - just ask and we will send it to you.



15 June	World Elder Abuse Awareness Day – Advocate
18 - 24 June	Home - Refugee Week
2 - 9 July	NAIDOC
25 July	World Day for Grandparents and Elderly
12 August	International Youth Day United Nations
27 August	Social Justice Sunday
3 – 9 September	Child Protection Week
10 th September	Safeguarding Sunday



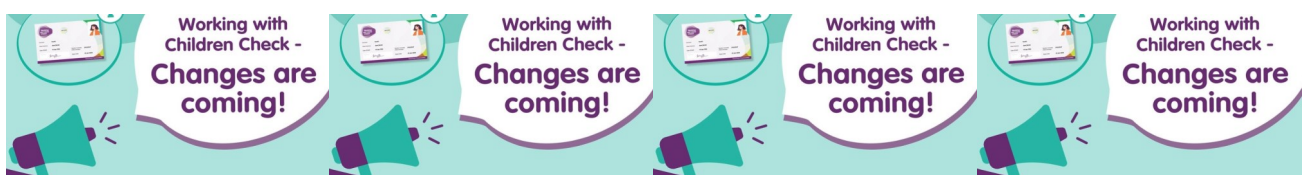
AGENCY Support for Safeguarding

The **Aboriginal Catholic Ministry** is the first Archdiocesan Agency to implement the appointment of a Safeguarding Officer. Amber Mahlis officially took on the role as the Safeguarding Officer in May and is excited to be able to support the Aboriginal Catholic Ministry with Safeguarding principles and practice, stating "It is something I totally believe in".

Under the stewardship of Director, Donella Brown, the Aboriginal Catholic Ministry has been proactive in ensuring Safeguarding is embedded within the work of the Agency.

Amber's involvement with the Aboriginal Catholic Ministry commenced in 2019 in a volunteering capacity. She is now working in the agency as a pastoral assistant and will support the agency to build capacity and awareness of the importance of safeguards for children and adults.

Welcome aboard the Safeguarding Program Team!



- ⇒ An expansion of the criminal offences, pending charges or convictions that will result in a negative notice.
- ⇒ COMING SOON..... Online applications, verifications and electronic service of notices.
- ⇒ Cardholders will be required to notify the screening unit of changes in personal details including the start and finish of a child-related work.
- ⇒ A strengthening and clarifying of information sharing to further protect children.
- ⇒ Volunteers can not continue in child-related work if an interim negative notice or a negative notice is issued.

For more information on amendments to the WWC check legislation visit
[Legislation - WWC Check Western Australia \(workingwithchildren.wa.gov.au\)](https://www.workingwithchildren.wa.gov.au/legislation)



The Emmanuel Centre Gospels in Auslan

The Emmanuel Centre is excited to announce their new YouTube channel where weekly Gospel readings in Auslan will be posted.

This is a massive step towards helping the Catholic Deaf community in their faith journey.

Started it to coincide with the start of Advent Year A they will continue to publish one weekly until the cycle of year A, B, and C is completed.

Make sure to subscribe to the channel and forward it to anyone who would benefit from this:

www.youtube.com/@catholicdeafandemmanuelcentre

The Emmanuel Centre provides self-help disability services in an environment that fosters spiritual growth, good mental health and general well-being.



Every online safety conversation counts

Regularly talking about online safety is important to keep children and young people safe online. Even simple conversations while in the car, via text message or while playing video games can make a big difference.

Use eSafety's [online safety resources](#) to help you feel more confident having these conversations with your family. There are four short videos you can watch and easy-to-read advice sheets available in English, Arabic, Chinese, Dari, Tamil and Vietnamese.

What do young people think about: online hate

In this episode of our 'Scroll sessions', young people share their experiences with online hate and negative online culture. While most online interactions are fun and positive, these young people highlight the impact of experiencing online hate. [Watch the video](#) to learn about the diverse ways young people cope with this issue.

Start a conversation about online hate in your family.

Talk about safe online spaces and sites where online hate is more common.

Be attentive to your child's perspective.

Encourage them to see diversity as a positive and valuable part of society.

How Can We Support Religious and Spiritual Practices of Older Adults With Mild Cognitive Impairment and Dementia?

What do we know about the religious and spiritual practices of older adults with cognitive impairment and dementia?

We know they are important and we need to do more work to support the established religious and spiritual practices of older adults facing the progressive and terminal illness of dementia.

[>>Read the Full Article](#)



2023 THEME: 'WHERE WE START MATTERS'

In 2023, the message that 'Every child in every community needs a fair go' will be complemented with the theme 'Where we start matters'.

Where we start our lives in terms of where we live, the resources available to us, and the opportunities presented to us make a significant difference to our life outcomes. For more information go to [Theme - NAPCAN](#)

SAVE THE DATE

2023 Child Protection Week

3 - 9 September

Safeguarding Sunday 10th September

We will be running the Kite Craft activity again this year. So... sharpen your pencils and crayons and let your church community know they will have an opportunity to gather and reflect on the importance of Child Protection and Safeguarding.

Oh..... and fly a kite!



ST. EMILIE DE VIALAR WORKSHOPS

Thank you **Fr Jean-Noel Marie and the wonderful Safeguarding Officers: Radha de Mel, Liselle Long and Enrica Castello**, from St Emilie de Vialar, Canning Vale - for hosting two workshops – A Pastoral Response to Family & Domestic Violence and Protecting God's Children.



If you would like to book a workshop visit

[TRAINING BOOKING FORM](#)



WORKSHOP



Photo top - Safeguarding Induction in New Norcia Parish



Photo left - Safeguarding Officer **Enzo Vettorel** from St Francis of Assisi Parish, Maida receiving a blessing during the **Annual National Volunteer Week Thanksgiving Mass**, Sunday, 14 May 2023

Photo credit : Ron Tan/Archdiocese of Perth



OUR NEW SAFEGUARDING OFFICERS:

- Kathy Pollard - Northam**
- Irena Tumak - Northam**
- Sharon Willesen - Riverton**
- Lisa Yensch - Attadale**
- Linley Plowman - Mt. Lawley**
- Renee Itzstein - Whifford**
- Rhonda Sloan - Whifford**
- Ruby Akua Aglagoh - Joondalup Chapel**