

Child Safeguarding Commitment Statement

Catholic Education Northern Territory is committed to the safety, wellbeing and empowerment of all children, young people and vulnerable adults. This commitment is drawn from, and inherent to, the teaching and mission of Jesus Christ, with love, justice and the sanctity of each human person at the heart of the Gospel. We recognise and uphold the dignity and rights of all children and young people, and have zero tolerance for child abuse and exploitation.

We are committed to creating school, education and care environments where children and young people are respected, and where they are safe and feel safe. We provide opportunities for children and young people to have a voice and be heard.

We encourage open communication where families and communities are informed of relevant issues and have the opportunity to contribute to the decision-making process regarding the safety of children and young people.

We have policies and procedures in place to build a strong safeguarding culture. Employees and volunteers must follow these policies and procedures and thus contribute to the culture of the care and protection of all children, young people and vulnerable adults. It is essential that all employees and volunteers are committed to educating our community, and by remaining informed of the causes and signs of harm to children, young people and vulnerable adults.

We plan, organise and review all activities with children and young people, proactively considering potential risks and implementing control measures that reduce or eliminate these risks. All stakeholders are encouraged to communicate their concerns or suggest possible improvements to policies or procedures.

We are committed to responding sensitively and respectfully, in a timely manner, to anyone who raises a concern or allegation of harm to a child, young person or vulnerable adult. We report to the appropriate authority in line with our moral and legal obligations and our Investigating Complaints Policy.

We will regularly undertake internal and external auditing of our safeguarding policies and practices to make sure that they always support a culture that puts the safety of children and young people at the centre of our thinking, decision making and action.

For more information or to raise a concern, please contact the:

School Safeguarding Contact Person, or

Integrity Officer/ Child Safety Coordinator: christine.smith@nt.catholic.edu.au

Greg O'Mullane

Director, Catholic Education Northern Territory

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