

HOW DO WE SAFEGUARD?



- Have another adult with you, or at least in line of sight, when with a child (two adult rule)
- Respect boundaries - no favoritism.
- Respectful online presence - do not 'befriend' children on personal social media if you know them through ministry.
- Be welcoming to new parishioners or visitors.
- Parents supervise their children especially when child is going to the bathroom.
- If you are running an event, ensure you have completed a risk assessment. Go to our website for guidance and templates.

VOLUNTEER CHECKLIST: HAVE YOU...

- ☐ Got a valid Working with Children Check (WWCC) or other appropriate screening requirement as relevant to your role
- ☐ Signed the Diocesan Code of Conduct
- ☐ Attended the Diocesan Safeguarding Training

CONTACT US

 (02) 6771 8700

 safeguarding@armidale.catholic.org.au



DIOCESE OF
ARMIDALE

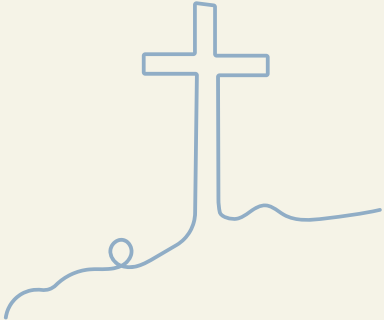
for Church
Personnel

CREATING A *CARING* PARISH

Safeguarding Basics



June 2026



WHAT IS SAFEGUARDING?

It is *creating and maintaining a safe environment for all people.*

It is based upon the truth that each person is created in the **image and likeness of God** with inherent dignity that must be respected and upheld.

The essential Christian message of *loving one another* is at the heart of safeguarding (Jn 13:34).

As volunteers, employees or leaders in the Church, we have a duty of care to do everything reasonably practicable to **ensure the safety and wellbeing** of those we minister to.

This is our shared responsibility to create a loving, safe environment.



IF SOMEONE DISCLOSES HARM TO YOU, HOW DO YOU RESPOND?

REASSURE

Listen, stay calm, believe the child or adult, acknowledge that they have done the right thing by telling you.

Ask these two questions:

- 1) Is this still happening?
- 2) Have you told someone about it?

RECORD

Record anything that you are told or what you observe.

Include the date, time, parties involved and sign and date your notes.

REPORT

Report to the people listed inside this pamphlet. Remember! You have obligations to report by law.



REPORTING

If in immediate danger, call 000

Report to either of the following and they will guide you with the next steps:

Your Parish Safeguarding
Contact Person

Parish Priest

Diocesan Safeguarding and
Professional Standards
Office

