



Safeguarding Guideline (Short Form)

Continuous Improvement

The purpose of the Continuous Improvement guideline is to regularly review and improve the Diocese's implementation of the National Catholic Safeguarding Standards (NCSS) in the way it thinks, plans, and acts.

Internal self-assessment reviews of safeguarding practices are to be conducted annually with findings, outcomes and action plans documented and shared with Parishes, Offices, Councils/Committees, Boards, Leadership and Communities.

Principles

- The Diocese is committed to maintaining safe practices for the protection of children and adults.
- By monitoring, reviewing, and reporting the implementation of safeguarding standards within the Diocese, we remain committed to the foundation of our faith to serve Jesus and uphold Gospel values.
- Creating a culture of safety and care, and ongoing improvement is the collective responsibility of all.

Standards and Guidance

- A safeguarding self-assessment is to be undertaken by Diocesan Offices, Organisations and Parishes annually utilising the **Safeguarding Activities Assessment Tool (SAAT)**.
- The SAAT form is to be submitted to the Safeguarding Office for review and analysis.
- The Safeguarding Office will provide feedback on completed SAAT forms and where necessary support through the collaborative development of a Standards Action Plan.
- The Safeguarding Office will provide an annual SAAT analysis report to the Executive Team on the implementation of the NCSS and identify any systemic causes and failings in safeguarding procedures and practices.
- The Diocese will be subject to an external audit every three years with findings validated by Australian Catholic Safeguarding Ltd and made publicly available.

Information & Advice

For additional information please seek guidance from:

Safeguarding Program Office
safeguarding@bunburycatholic.org.au
or your supervisor

