

The Australian Province of the Society of the Missionaries of the Sacred Heart is committed to promoting safeguarding practices for children and adults.

## We as a Province make the following Safeguarding commitments:

We commit to a policy of zero-tolerance to any form of abuse and exploitation of children and adults.

We commit to creating a safe physical and digital environment, where children and adults are respected, and their rights upheld.

We commit to fostering a culture of safety and care where everyone participating in the mission of the Province, including our leadership, members, staff and volunteers is responsible for creating and maintaining this safeguarding culture.

We commit to having our leadership, our members, our staff and volunteers continually develop their appreciation and understanding of safeguarding through ongoing education and formation.

We commit to having our safeguarding policies and processes regularly reviewed so as to reflect current best practice.

We commit to having processes which enable us to promptly and sensitively respond to and report allegations and disclosures of current and historical abuse to appropriate authorities.

We commit to ensuring that children, families and communities are educated about all forms of abuse and exploitation and involved in promoting safeguarding.

We commit to respecting cultural diversity and upholding justice for the most vulnerable within our community, including children who identify as Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander, children from culturally and/or linguistically diverse backgrounds, children with a disability and those from marginalised groups.

We commit to encouraging families and children to communicate their concerns or suggestions for how we may improve our engagement on the issue of Safeguarding.

Endorsed 21 April 2021

m V SC