



SAFEGUARDING COMMITMENT STATEMENT

The Catholic Diocese of the Australian Military Services is dedicated to creating and preserving safe and encouraging settings, especially for vulnerable persons and children. Everyone is entitled to safety and security. Our relationships with children, people, their families, and the community are shaped by inclusivity, which is central to the Gospel and our beliefs.

We support the development of settings that enable vulnerable individuals and children to express themselves and be heard. We acknowledge the importance of families and the community in protecting vulnerable individuals and children, and we value their opinions on how to enhance our procedures, including how we interact with them. Our rules and procedures serve as the foundation for the culture of care, accountability, and transparency that we have established and are continuously fostering. In addition to collaborating with other Church bodies and outside parties to explore how governance reforms might be applied across our Church, we are steadfastly dedicated to integrating preventative, developmental, corrective, and safeguarding measures into routine operations.

Whenever we interact with children and other individuals who are at risk, we behave appropriately, which includes maintaining person-centered approaches, setting boundaries, and consistently acting in accordance with acceptable behavioural standards. Every employee, volunteer, and contractor is aware of their obligations regarding our own complaints and safeguarding procedures as well as the legal requirements of the applicable jurisdictions. Procedural fairness is maintained by responding correctly, compassionately, and promptly to any concerns that are raised or identified in any form.

"Children are a heritage from the Lord, offspring a reward from him" (Psalm 127:3)