



Safeguarding Commitment Statement

As a constituent member of the Catholic Church in Australia we, the Congregation of the Sisters of Charity of Australia, recognise and uphold the dignity and rights of all children and vulnerable persons.

Drawing upon the example of Jesus who said “Let the children come to Me for it is to them that the kingdom of God belongs” (Luke 18:15-16) and “Whoever becomes an obstacle to one of these little ones, it would be better if a large millstone were put around his neck and he be thrown into the sea” (Mark 9:42), we value the children and vulnerable amongst us. We see them as a gift from God and we encourage their participation in all activities that enhance their spiritual, physical, emotional, intellectual and social development within a culture that safeguards them from abuse and harm.

We commit ourselves to safeguarding children and the vulnerable from abuse and neglect. This commitment extends to all within our Congregation, including Sisters of Charity and Congregational personnel. Each of us has a responsibility to safeguard children and the vulnerable and to contribute to a culture of care and protection.

This commitment is supported in a number of practical ways including implementation of, and adherence to, the National Catholic Safeguarding Standards and a range of related policies and procedures.



Promise Statement

As Sisters of Charity of Australia, we are stirred by sorrow for the failings of the past. We encounter the depth of pain endured within our midst.

We promise to listen to and support those who have been harmed by abuse.

We promise to act to prevent abuse, respond with compassion and justice and put the protection of children and the vulnerable at the heart of all our ministries.

We promise to support all those walking courageously with the abused and those working fearlessly for the prevention of abuse.

We promise to work tirelessly and humbly to build a culture in our Church which is loving and answerable to the wider community.

We promise to partner with those who have been abused, with governments, civil agencies and society at large to continue to learn and work towards a safer, more respectful and accountable Church.

We promise to be people of action, to embed prevention and safeguarding practices and governance reforms throughout our Church.

We promise to remember and to be forever changed.