

# SAFEGUARDING GUIDE



All children and young people have the right to be protected from abuse.

Children and young people should feel safe and be safe in Church activities.

KEEPING CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE SAFE IS THE **NUMBER 1 PRIORITY.**

THE CHURCH DOES **NOT** ACCEPT THE ABUSE OF CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE BY ANYONE.

'Safeguarding' is the things the Church does to keep children and young people safe.

This guide helps children and young people understand what abuse is, some of things the Church does to safeguard them, and where they can get help.



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# What is abuse?

Hitting you.

Yelling or swearing at you.

Smacking you.

Someone touching you in a way that makes you feel ashamed.

Someone touching your private parts.

Someone showing you their private parts.

Someone taking rude photos or videos of you.

Someone showing you rude photos or videos.

No one should make you feel uncomfortable or frightened.

If something doesn't feel right tell someone you trust.

**IT'S OKAY TO TELL.**

# How do we safeguard?

We check that adults who work with children and young people are safe and responsible.

We plan activities carefully to make sure they are safe for children and young people.

We listen to children and young people so they can feel safe.

We take the concerns and problems of children and young people seriously.

We have rules about how adults behave with children and young people.

We do safeguarding training.

We do something if we think a child or young person is being abused.

Sometimes we contact the police or other government services to keep children and young people safe.

We check that things are being done to safeguard children and young people.

We check that our safeguarding practices are working and make them better.

**Safeguarding is everyone's responsibility.**

# How can you share your concerns or make a complaint?

Sharing your concerns and complaints is important. It can help make things better and safer for everyone.



A concern or complaint means you are worried or not happy about something.

1.

Find someone you trust and who will support you. Maybe mum or dad, a friend, or a teacher.

2.

Tell them about your concern or complaint.  
**It's okay to tell.**

3.

Tell a trusted person in the Church. Ask your support person to help if needed.

If you don't want to tell someone in the Church use the **STOPLINE service.**

## STOPLINE Service

Ph: 1300 304 550

Em: [AOB@stopline.com.au](mailto:AOB@stopline.com.au)

Web: [bnecatholic.stoplinereport.com](http://bnecatholic.stoplinereport.com)



# Where can you get other help?

If you need someone to talk to or feel worried about something you can contact these services.

## Kids Helpline

Counselling service for young people 5 to 25 years.

Ph: 1800 551 800

Web / Online Chat: [www.kidshelpline.com.au](http://www.kidshelpline.com.au)



## Headspace

Counselling services to help young people with mental health.

Web / Phone Support: [headspace.org.au/online-and-phone-support](http://headspace.org.au/online-and-phone-support)

## Youth Beyond Blue

Support for mental health, depression and anxiety.

Ph: 1300 224 636

Web / Online Chat: [www.youthbeyondblue.com](http://www.youthbeyondblue.com)



## Bravehearts

Advice and support for people who have experienced sexual abuse.

Ph: 1800 272 831

Web: [www.bravehearts.org.au](http://www.bravehearts.org.au)

## 13YARN

Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander crisis support line.

Ph: 13 92 76

Web: [www.13yarn.org.au](http://www.13yarn.org.au)



## Youth Law Australia

Free and confidential legal information & help for young people under 25.

Ph: 1800 950 570

Web: [www.yla.org.au](http://www.yla.org.au)



# Want more safeguarding information?

## Safeguarding Service

Ph: 07 3324 3752

Em: [safeguarding@bne.catholic.net.au](mailto:safeguarding@bne.catholic.net.au)

Web: [www.brisbanecatholic.org.au/safeguarding](http://www.brisbanecatholic.org.au/safeguarding)



Online Report

## National Office for Child Safety

Ph: 07 3324 3752

Em: [safeguarding@bne.catholic.net.au](mailto:safeguarding@bne.catholic.net.au)

Web: [www.childsafety.gov.au/resources/resource-library](http://www.childsafety.gov.au/resources/resource-library)

## E-Safety Commissioner

Advice and resources for keeping you safe online and making online abuse reports.

Web: [www.esafety.gov.au](http://www.esafety.gov.au)

## Australian Catholic Safeguarding Ltd

Ph: 1300 603 411

Em: [info@acsltd.org.au](mailto:info@acsltd.org.au)

Complaints email: [complaints.response@acsltd.org.au](mailto:complaints.response@acsltd.org.au)

Web: [www.acsltd.org.au](http://www.acsltd.org.au)



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