

Safeguarding Newsletter



DIOCESE OF
LISMORE

SAFEGUARDING IS EVERYONES RESPONSIBILITY



Here's what has happened in the last month and what's to come!

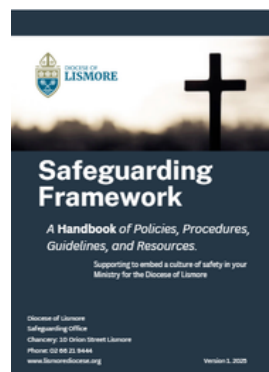
The month of May has seen the Safeguarding Office supporting parishes with their record keeping procedures. You can refer to the Diocese **Safeguarding Information and Record Keeping Policy and Procedure**, for assistance with keeping your records.

The Diocese Safeguarding Council met for the second (2) time for 2026.

The Diocese Safeguarding Framework is currently under review, and in line with the Australian Catholic Safeguarding Standards Audit recommendation a change of name will be one change that will occur in the review.

We invite any feedback that you may have for this document to be considered in this review. Please email any feedback to the Safeguarding Office.

safeguarding@lismore.catholic.org.au



Safeguarding team.

In this newsletter you can expect:

Sector News

Support Services & Awareness

Professional Learning Opportunities

Safeguarding Office Contacts



Sector – Latest News

Pope Leo's 'Magnifica humanitas': AI must serve humanity not concentrate power

Marking the 135th anniversary of Rerum novarum, Pope Leo XIV releases his first encyclical, entitled 'Magnifica humanitas: On Safeguarding the Human Person in the Time of Artificial Intelligence.' He appeals for the safeguarding of humanity, promotion of truth, dignity of work, social justice, and peace.



Scan the QR Code to read the full story



The Aged Care reforms introduced on 1 November 2025 are significant and we've heard from many older people and their families about the impacts they've experienced since the reforms commenced.

As the reforms head toward the 6 month mark since introduction, COTA Australia and OPAN (Older Persons Advocacy Network), are hosting 3 webinar sessions to provide another opportunity to have your questions answered.

The first webinar has now been completed and you can watch the recorded version in the link below. Over 700 people attended the May webinar and we managed to answer or address multiple issues and questions that were sent to us as part of the registration process and some live and interactive on the day via chat or zoom. Thank you to all those that attended or submitted a question and we hope to see you at the next one!



WEBINAR: SESSION 1 – COMPLETED

Friday 8 May 2026 2.00pm – 4.00pm AEST. [WATCH FULL WEBINAR VIDEO HERE](#)

WEBINAR: SESSION 2

Monday 1 June 2026 2.00pm – 4.00pm AEST. [REGISTER HERE ACRE W2](#)

WEBINAR: SESSION 3

Tuesday 30 June 2026 2.00pm – 4.00pm AEST. [REGISTER HERE ACRE W3](#)

Scan the QR Code to access registration page



Types of Elder Abuse ?



JUNE 15
WORLD ELDER ABUSE AWARENESS DAY

There is a broad range of conduct that amounts to mistreatment of older people. This includes social, financial, psychological, emotional, physical and sexual misconduct.

The National Plan to Respond to the Abuse of Older Australians (2019-2023) lists five commonly recognised forms of abuse of older people: financial, emotional/psychological, physical, sexual or neglect.

Drilling down further, abuse can be:

- a combination of the different types of abuse
- intentional or unintentional
- occurring once or many times
- carried out by someone known to the older person, such as a family member, friend, professional or paid caregiver.

Elder abuse comes in many forms, it can be;



Scan the QR code to access the Elder Abuse Action Australia website. The information here has come from this website.



Support Services & Awareness



Office of the
Children's Guardian

22 – 28 June
Working with Children Week

Working with
Children Week

22-28 June 2026



Start safe
Smarter recruitment for
child safety

Working with Children Week, which will be held from 22–28 June 2026, is a great opportunity to reflect on how the decisions we make every day help keep children safe.

This year's theme, **Start safe: smarter recruitment for child safety**, is less about compliance and more about judgement. It's a reminder that child safety is built through people, culture and systems, often long before a child ever walks through the door.

Recruitment is one of those moments.

The questions we ask, the expectations we set, and the way people are supported once they start all send clear signals about what matters in an organisation. When those signals are consistent and thoughtful, they help create workplaces where child safety is understood, prioritised and sustained.

For many organisations, this means taking a step back to look at the whole recruitment picture:

- how roles are designed
- how values are reflected in the selection processes
- how people are inducted, supervised and supported over time.

These are practical, everyday choices, and they're the ones that make the biggest difference for a child. Resources are available to help organisations reflect on what's already working well and where small improvements could strengthen child-safe practice.

If you're looking for guidance, resources or a conversation about how smarter recruitment and workforce practices connect to child safety in your context, you can contact the Office of the Children's Guardian or the Diocese of Lismore Safeguarding Office.

Thank you for the role you play in helping organisations start safe and stay safe for children!

Scan the QR Code to
access web page



Connecting to National Catholic Safeguarding - **Standard Five**
Robust human resource management
People working with children and adults are suitable and
supported to reflect safeguarding values in practice

Working with Children Week

22 -28 June 2026



Start Safe:

Smarter recruitment for child safety

Child-safe recruitment starts before appointment and continues after people begin their role.

Induction, supervision, training and support are just as important as screening in creating safe environments for children.

To support this work in practice, the Office of the Children's Guardian offers resources and training to help organisations embed child-safe recruitment and support staff and volunteers to meet their responsibilities.

Professional Learning Opportunities



Early Learning Commission


Description

Connect with your peers from across the Early Childhood Education and Care (ECEC) sector at this free, face-to-face event. Delivered in partnership with the NSW Early Learning Commission, engage directly with staff, including senior executives, to hear updates and share your insights.



To register and or view scan the QR Codes below

 Tue, 23 Jun, 9am - 2:15pm AEST

 Sawtell Public School
Sawtell NSW, Australia



Diocesan Safeguarding Training

Contact the Safeguarding Office to schedule your training sessions for 2026.

Are your employees, church personnel, volunteers, & or parishioners in need of safeguarding training or refresher training (3 yearly)

Safeguarding Awareness

Mandatory Reporting & Reportable Conduct

Integrity in Our Common Mission

SAFEGUARDING OFFICE	02 6621 9444
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Thank you for reading!