

## Sydney Catholic Schools Child Safety Statement

**Sydney Catholic Schools has zero tolerance for child abuse, neglect and exploitation. We are united in our commitment to providing a child safe environment in our schools.**

Love for one another and respect for the dignity of all human beings is the central calling of our faith in God. We believe our children are precious and deserve to grow in an environment where they are safe and feel safe. This is at the heart of our mission at Sydney Catholic Schools, especially as we are entrusted to nurture children and young people throughout their education.

Framed by our core values of Truth, Excellence, Curiosity, Empathy and Collaboration we safeguard our children and young people, without compromise, through a commitment to;

- Ensuring every student feels empowered and that their voice is heard. Our students are supported to speak up about situations that make them feel unsafe and our staff will listen. Children in our schools will participate in decisions that impact their lives.
- Treating all concerns regarding child safety and allegations of inappropriate conduct seriously, by thoroughly investigating all claims.
- Respecting the privacy of our children and young people.
- Ensuring every person involved in Sydney Catholic Schools, be they employees, volunteers, or student teachers, are educated in and understand their responsibilities and the important role they play in ensuring the safety of children and young people in our schools.
- Defending the safety of vulnerable children and those with a disability.
- Creating physically and culturally safe environments for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children and those from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds.
- Abiding by NSW Government law in our practices, and transparently putting into place policies, procedures, and reporting mechanisms which make it possible to uphold these commitments that protect our children. We will continue to make these policies readily available for public review.

The wellbeing of young people is foundational within our schools. Together we will safeguard our children and young people, delivering on our vision to build thriving Catholic Communities through excellent teaching and learning.



Mr Peter Turner  
Executive Director  
Sydney Catholic Schools