



# Safe Ministry NEWSLETTER

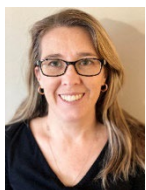
Welcome to the October Safe Ministry e-newsletter. We thank you for your time in perusing this newsletter.

Keeping children and young people safe is everyone's responsibility. Thanks for the part you play in ensuring children and young people are safe and thrive in our parishes and congregations.

We would love to hear from you - if you have a question, need information or have an idea for strengthening the safe church work we all do together, please send us and email to [safeministry@melbourneanglican.org.au](mailto:safeministry@melbourneanglican.org.au).

## Highlights from Anne

Safe Ministry and Inclusion Officer



This year, I have had the pleasure of running some training for parishes with parishioners for whom English is not their first language. The generosity and hospitality shown to me was so lovely and encouraging, not to mention the delicious food that was shared.

It is so great to see the ministry that is across our churches and how the love of Jesus is being lived out with those they engage with.

For Synod this year, we recorded a fun video which will soon be available on our new Safe Ministry Toolbox webpage, please check it out.

*Anne*

### A Safe Ministry prayer.

Dear God,  
We are so sorry for the times our church  
has hurt others and not been a safe place.

Please forgive us.

Please comfort and heal those people.

May your Spirit enable us to right wrongs, and help us to make and keep our churches safe.

Help us look after everyone, including children and vulnerable people.

Please guide our leaders as they make decisions that keep our ministries safe.

Help each one of us do our part in making church a safe place for everyone.

In Jesus' name we pray,  
Amen

- written by Bishop Genieve Blackwell and Revd. Amy Brown, 2022



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# News

As always, there is so much happening in this area of ministry across our diocese.

- **Diocesan Safe Ministry Action Plan** (Action Plan) for meeting the new Standards
- **Self-assessment Tool** for parishes
- **Safe Ministry Training** platform change
- **Clearance for Service** update
- **Safe Ministry Toolbox webpage**
- Launch of the **Survey of Access and Inclusion** at Synod

## Diocesan Safe Ministry Action Plan

The Safe Ministry Reference Group (SMRG), Safe Ministry and Inclusion Officer and Registry Team are continuing to develop this Action Plan to meet the new Child Safe Standards. This Action Plan will include diocesan responsibilities as well as parish requirements.



## Self-Assessment Tool for parishes

Some Parishes/Congregations have been asking for an updated tool to review themselves against the new Standards. The Safe Ministry team has created a self-assessment tool. If your Parish/Congregation would like a copy, please email [safeministry@melbourneanglican.org.au](mailto:safeministry@melbourneanglican.org.au).

### Did you know...?

Child Safe Standard #3 requires each organisation to ensure that children and young people are empowered about their rights, they are able to participate in decisions affecting them and they are taken seriously.

*How does your parish/congregation do this? Check out the <https://ccyp.vic.gov.au/assets/resources/Empowerment-and-Participation-Guide/Empowerment-and-participation-guide-22.08.22.pdf> found on the CCYP website*

## Safe Ministry Training Update

The Safe Ministry training online modules are now hosted on a new platform through Creating Safer Communities (CSC). With this move comes a few process changes. New links and instruction guides are available on the [training page](#) on our website.

## Clearance for Service update

As we come to Annual Meeting season and roles change, please ensure new volunteers complete the Safe Ministry requirements and the parish Volunteer and Lay Employee Register is updated accordingly.



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## Safe Ministry Toolbox Webpage

Just a reminder that the new Safe Ministry Toolbox webpage went live in August 2022. This user-friendly webpage forms a toolbox of resources which will be added to as more resources are developed. The Safe Ministry video prepared for Synod will soon be available on this webpage.



The new link is <https://www.melbourneanglican.org.au/safe-ministry/> - there are redirections active so old links will still work. Over the next few weeks, please change these old links to the new ones on your parish websites and documents. We are also working to edit the links in our documents and training.

## Survey of Access and Inclusion

The diocese accessibility and inclusion working group's Survey of access and Inclusion was launched at Synod. This survey can be completed [here](#) or by scanning this QR code. The results of this survey will help to define the next steps for the work in ensuring all people can access and be part of parishes and congregations across the Anglican Diocese of Melbourne.



## Helpful Resources

**[Commission for Children and Young People \(CCYP\)](#)** - useful guides and information, including [translated information sheets](#) in many languages.

**[eSafety Commissioner](#)** - information about popular and emerging online technologies and ways to manage online risks, including information for use with [children](#) and [young people](#).

**[SNAICC](#)** – *Keeping Our Kids Safe* resources for Cultural Safety for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children and young people.

**[Safe Ministry Toolbox](#)** – resources for parishes and congregations in the Anglican Diocese of Melbourne



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Does everyone in your parish / congregation know how to **Speak up** if they have a concern about the safety and wellbeing of a child or young person?

If something doesn't look, feel or sound right, **Speak up**.

Adults can support children and young people to tell someone they trust if they have a concern.

This reporting poster, as well as other Child Safety posters, is available on the [Parish Resources page](#) of the Safe Ministry website.

## REPORTING CHILD ABUSE IS A COMMUNITY-WIDE RESPONSIBILITY



**ANGLICAN  
DIOCESE OF  
MELBOURNE**

Reporting Child Abuse in the  
Anglican Diocese of Melbourne

- 1 If a child is in **immediate danger** at any point **CALL 000**
- 2 All suspicions or reports of child abuse must be reported to:
 

<p><b>Police</b></p> <p><b>Child Protection</b></p> <p><b>Kooyoora Professional Standards</b></p>	<p><b>What is Child Abuse?</b></p> <p>Abuse and neglect includes but is not limited to:</p> <p><b>Physical Abuse, Emotional Abuse, Family Violence, Sexual Abuse, Grooming and Neglect.</b></p>	<p><b>Who can report neglect and abuse of a child under the age of 18?</b></p> <p>Children, Parents, Staff, Volunteers, Anyone.</p>	<p><b>What sorts of things must be reported?</b></p> <p>All child safety concerns must be reported:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Disclosure of past and present abuse and harm</li> <li>Allegations, suspicions or observations</li> <li>Breaches of the Code of Conduct</li> </ul>
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**CONTACT NUMBERS:**

**POLICE 000**

**CHILD PROTECTION SEE BELOW**

**KOYOORA PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS 1800 135 246**

Contact the child protection intake service that covers the area in which the child lives:

<p><b>North Division 1300 664 977</b></p> <p><small>Area Includes:</small> Banyule, Darebin, Hume, Macedon Ranges, Moreland, Nillumbik, Whittlesea, Yarra.</p>	<p><b>South Division 1300 655 795</b></p> <p><small>Area Includes:</small> Bayside, Cardinia, Casey, Frankston, Glen Eira, Greater Dandenong, Kingston, Mornington Peninsula, Port Phillip, Stonnington.</p>	<p><b>East Division 1300 369 391</b></p> <p><small>Area Includes:</small> Booroondara, Knox, Manningham, Maroondah, Mitchell, Monash, Murrindindi, Whitehorse, Yarra Ranges.</p>	<p><b>West Division (Rural and regional only) 1800 075 599</b></p> <p><small>Area Includes:</small> Colden Plains, Greater Geelong, Moorabool, Queenscliffe, Surf Coast.</p>	<p><b>West Division (Metropolitan only) 1300 664 977</b></p> <p><small>Area Includes:</small> Brimbank, Hobsons Bay, Maribyrnong, Melbourne, Melton, Moonee Valley, Wyndham.</p>
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