

CHILD PROTECTION MATTERS

CHILD PROTECTION NOTIFICATION PROCESS FOR SPECIAL RELIGIOUS EDUCATION TEACHERS (SRES)

<p>All those who have Working With Children Check (WWCC) clearance and work with children (0-15years) and young people (16 and 17 years old) are required to make a report if they believe a young person (yp) is at risk of significant harm (ROSH). Under the relevant Act (<i>Children's Guardian Act 2019</i>) an SRE is considered a '<u>mandatory reporter</u>' for children (0-15) at risk of significant harm (ROSH).</p>	
<p>If you think that a child or young person (yp):</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Is at risk of significant harm, or • Has been subjected to physical or sexual assault, ill treatment, neglect (medical/educational) or psychological harm or is living in a household with domestic violence
<p>THEN YOU MUST FOLLOW THE 3RS:</p>	
<p>REASSURE – the child or yp that</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the child or yp did the right thing by telling you • the child or yp is not in trouble • you will tell someone who can help the child or yp • the child or yp has a right to feel safe and protected
<p>RECORD</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • (as soon as practical) anything that you are told or that you observe • include the date, time, parties involved • your role and name • sign the record
<p>REPORT</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • You must inform the Principal of the school to make a report to the Department of Communities and Justice (DCJ) and then • You must also contact the CCD Director, Diocese of Parramatta and give details of the incident. • Additionally, you are required to complete a formal report yourself and lodge it with the Department of Communities and Justice (DCJ) by either <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - calling the Child Protection Helpline: 132 111(24/7) or - if the report is non-urgent you can submit an e-report reporter.childstory.nsw.gov.au - the CCD Director can assist you in making the report (ph 8838 3486) • in an emergency you should call 000 • Confidentiality is essential.



WHEN IS A CHILD AT RISK OF SIGNIFICANT HARM (ROSH)?

<p>Risk of significant harm occurs when needs are not met or are at risk of not being met</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Basic physical or psychological needs • Non-attendance at school • Absence of necessary medical care • Risk of physical or sexual abuse • Risk of psychological harm due to exposure to domestic violence • Conduct of the caregiver causes or has the potential to cause harm
<p>Indicators that a child or yp is at risk of harm include:</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bruising, lacerations, welts, burns and scalds • Persistent sexualised behaviour • Self-destructive behaviour • Bullying and other behavioural disorders • Extreme attention-seeking behaviour • Low self-esteem

SRE teachers (Catechists and Assistants) are expected to follow the Child Protection Notification Process described in this document as it follows the direction given in the Children and Young Persons (Care and Protection) Act 1998 and the NSW Department of Education Code of Conduct, which includes the Social Media Policy.

Reports to the Principal, the CCD Office/Office for Safeguarding and the DCJ must be made within 24 hours.

CONTACT DETAILS DIOCESE OF PARRAMATTA

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The CCD Director will ensure the Parish Priest is informed.

TERMS

WWCC	Working with Children Check
ROSH	Risk of Significant Harm
Child	A child is defined as a person under the age of 16 years.
Young person (yp)	A young person is defined as a person who is 16 or 17 years
DCJ	Department of Communities and Justice

