

AUGUSTINIANS



PROVINCE OF OUR MOTHER OF GOOD COUNSEL AUSTRALASIA

COMMITMENT TO SAFEGUARDING

'The Order of St Augustine in Australasia' is committed to fostering communities of safety and care for all people, especially for children and others in the community who are vulnerable. Our commitment is underscored by our faith in Jesus Christ who teaches the fundamental sanctity of each human person, and by our dedication to sustained education, practice, and conversation about our moral, legal, and spiritual obligation to safeguard all those within the community.

We seek to uphold the dignity of all children and vulnerable adults and this will be achieved through adherence to Gospel values, and the teachings of St Augustine as every member of our community strives to be a person who:

1. **Wants** our children to be safe, to grow and to flourish, and have zero tolerance to any attitude and activity that makes children less than safe;
2. **Acts** with integrity, humility and sincerity, being truthful and open-hearted, and accountable and transparent, throughout our community;
3. **Shows** care for the rights of all people who are supported by Augustinian policies, procedures and systems that are clear, accessible, and compliant;
4. **Leads** by a constant commitment to raising awareness, education, professional development, and supervision;
5. **Listens** to others with an open heart and mind, and responds well so that concerns and risks may be identified early and addressed;
6. **Reaches** out with compassion to all who have experienced hurt in our community, restoring relationships and building hope through support, acknowledgement and just redress;
7. **Communicates** openly and honestly so that there is a clear articulation and demonstration of expectations, standards, structures and processes for Safeguarding, and responds to complaints in an active and timely manner;
8. **Engages** the knowledge and experience of the wider community so that through dialogue and collaboration we can contribute to growth in the safety and wellbeing of our communities.

It is incumbent on each of us to help to protect one another. We are called to act and speak out for the protection of all.

Fr Peter Jones OSA
Prior Provincial
February 2020

Fr David Austin OSA
Co-ordinator, Professional Standards
February 2020