

NATIONAL CHILD PROTECTION WEEK

4-10 SEPTEMBER 2022

→ GET INVOLVED!

**EVERY CHILD
IN EVERY
COMMUNITY
NEEDS
A FAIR GO**

National Child Protection Week (NCPW) invites all Australians to play their part to promote the safety and wellbeing of children and young people.

In 2022, NCPW will continue to embrace the overarching message, 'Every child, in every community, needs a fair go'. This year we will be shining a light on children growing up feeling safe and supported.

This NCPW, we will be looking at what children are telling us, what families are telling us, what the evidence is telling us, and how to translate this knowledge into action.

We know that too many children are not growing up safe and supported and that child protection systems

are overloaded. There are many opportunities to change the trajectory for these children.

We can stop child abuse and neglect – and reduce its impact – by working together to make sure every child in every community has a fair go.

The Office of Safeguarding is the organisational expression of the Diocese of Maitland-Newcastle's abiding commitment to promote the safeguarding of children, working closely with the Diocese's parishes, schools, social services, early education and out-of-school hour care programmes.

HOW OUR CATHOLIC SCHOOLS CAN GET INVOLVED

DECORATE YOUR GATE

In recognition of National Child Protection Week 2022, we're asking Diocesan Catholic schools and St Nicholas Early Education centres to decorate their school or centre gate, fence, or alternative space in line with the theme, 'Every child, in every community, needs a fair go'.

PRIZES

A 10m² LOCALLY-THEMED MURAL AT YOUR SCHOOL PAINTED BY MITCH REVS -

designed in collaboration with students
(1 x primary prize, 1 x secondary prize)

TO ENTER

To enter, decorate your school or centre gate, fence, or alternative space (e.g. feature wall, double doors etc) in line with the theme, 'Every child, in every community, needs a fair go'. What you use to decorate your space is entirely up to you - so get creative! Once complete, email a photo of your display to:

**Sophie Dougherty, Investigator
(Office of Safeguarding) -
sophie.dougherty@mn.catholic.org.au**

HOW OUR CATHOLIC SCHOOLS CAN GET INVOLVED!

DOWNLOADABLE RESOURCES

- The National Association for the Prevention of Child Abuse & Neglect (NAPCAN) has several resources available to download and display, including posters and colouring in worksheets.

Visit: <https://www.napcan.org.au/posters-and-tip-sheets/>

- eSafety have also developed an in-class resource. 'Online boundaries and consent' is a resource designed to support students as they start to learn about online consent and permission, and how to define and create online boundaries. The resource includes an animated slide deck video with a voiceover, pre and post activity slides, lesson plans, student worksheet and follow-up activities.

Visit: <https://www.esafety.gov.au/educators/classroom-resources/online-boundaries-and-consent>

ONLINE EVENTS

- NAPCAN are running several webinars designed to support the 2022 theme.

Visit: <https://www.napcan.org.au/final-official-program-webinars-events-2022/>

- eSafety is offering a new Virtual Classroom for middle to upper primary (Years 3-6) for National Child Protection Week (NCPW). Details are below:

'Be an eSafe kid: Be safe, be supportive'

Open sessions available to all State, Catholic and Independent schools (AEST)

- Monday 5 September, 9:30 – 10:15am
- Tuesday 6 September, 2:00 – 2:45pm
- Thursday 8 September, 9:30 – 10:15am
- Friday 9 September, 9:30 – 10:15am
- Tuesday 13 September, 2:00 – 2:45pm
- Thursday 15 September at 9:30 – 10:15am

Register here: <https://register.gotowebinar.com/rt/2583124871570022155>

Further information can be found here: <https://www.esafety.gov.au/educators/primary-student-webinars>

HOST AN EVENT

- Engage a service provider to present a topic relating to child protection for staff.
- Run staff professional development with the specific theme and workshop other ideas your school can do to participate.
- Contact the Office of Safeguarding if you would like to arrange for staff or carers to undertake training in Protective Behaviours to develop skills and strategies to empower children to develop personal safety strategies.

Email: oosgtraining@mn.catholic.org.au

- Host a morning tea/BBQ or other event to promote National Child Protection Week.
- Host an out-of-uniform day to promote National Child Protection Week
- 'Bravehearts Day' is on Friday 9 September 2020. This day is aimed at the prevention of child sexual assault. You may choose to fly white balloons on this day to support this initiative or have an out-of-uniform day where students are encouraged to wear something white.

For other ideas on how to get involved, visit <https://www.braveheartsday.com.au/>

Resources can be found here: <https://www.braveheartsday.com.au/resources/resources-schools-elc>

- The Daniel Morcombe also has a range of resources including video's and activities for different age levels to help educate students in keeping safe.

Visit: <https://danielmorcombe.com.au/keeping-kids-safe-resources/>

HOW OUR CATHOLIC SCHOOLS CAN GET INVOLVED!

OTHER WAYS TO GET INVOLVED

- Display the Charter of the Rights of the Child and open up the conversation with children and families about protecting children.

Visit https://www.napcan.org.au/wp-content/uploads/2020/02/NAPCAN_rights-of-the-child-poster_0614-1.pdf

- Put some tips in your school newsletter / Compass platform. For example:

Chatting with our children helps to build the strong connections that help them thrive.

A great place to start is by asking the best thing that happened in their day. Other tips for conversations with your children include:

- Remember what has been going on for your child so you can ask the best questions.
- Ask about their friends.
- Ask their opinions about things.

- Ask how they would solve problems. And respect their answers.
- If you are reading a book with your children, discuss it with them. Pause at the end of each page for them to comment.
- If your child doesn't respond to a question, don't push.
- Read a book to the students relating to child protection and ask them to talk about how they felt about the book and what child safety means to them.

Visit <https://www.onlyforme.com.au/>

- To listen to what Australian children and young people think about safety in organisations, follow this link to view research conducted by The Institute of Child Protection Studies at the Australian Catholic University <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jaxjSu4UGlw>



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