



Commitment to Safeguarding Children & Young People

The Society of Jesus, often referred to as 'the Jesuits' was founded by Saint Ignatius Loyola more than 450 years ago. It is an international Catholic men's religious order comprising priests, brothers and those in formation for these roles. The Australian Province of the Society had its beginnings with the arrival of the first Jesuits to Australia in 1848. Jesuits, lay staff and volunteers from the Province now minister throughout Australia and the world.

Since it began, the Province's educational, social, spirituality and pastoral ministries have served children and young people under the age of eighteen, as well as adults.

Cura personalis or the care for the entire person is a value central to our Ignatian tradition. To that end, all within the Province are committed to creating and maintaining an environment that is safe, supportive, caring and nurturing for all children and young people. We commit ourselves to safeguarding children and young people from all abuse and neglect.

More specifically, we are legally and morally committed to safeguarding the children and young people in our care from:

- Sexual abuse;
- Physical abuse;
- Emotional or psychological abuse;
- Neglect; and
- Witnessing family violence.

We expect all within the Province, regardless of their role or level of responsibility, to act to safeguard children and young people from such harm by:

- complying with all Australian laws in relation to Child Protection and Child Safe Standards;
- upholding the *United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child*;
- adopting the practices and behaviour we have set as our standard when carrying out their roles; and
- reporting any abuse or neglect of which they become aware to our leaders and/or to external authorities responsible for child protection and/or to police, regardless of whether that abuse is being perpetrated by personnel within our organisation, or by those outside our organisation including those from the child's family, extended family, their family's extended network or strangers.

The Province's commitment to providing a safe environment for the children and young people to whom we minister is endorsed and approved by me as the Provincial and by the leaders of Saint Ignatius' College, Riverview.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Brian F. McCoy SJ'.

Fr Brian F. McCoy SJ
Provincial

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Thomas Renshaw SJ'.

Fr Thomas Renshaw, SJ
Rector

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Greg Mackay'.

Mr Greg Mackay
Chair of Board/Council

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Paul Hine'.

Dr Paul Hine
Principal