



The Catenian Association

Australian Safeguarding Guidelines

approved by the Australian National Council

October 23, 2019

Throughout these guidelines the term Province includes Areas, and similarly Circle includes Groups wherever appropriate

Purpose

The Catenian Association is committed to fostering a culture of safety and care for children, our families and vulnerable adults.

These Catenian Australian Safeguarding Guidelines provide a framework that aligns with the Australia's *National Catholic Safeguarding Standards, Edition One 2019*, which embodies the Commonwealth Government's *National Framework for Protecting Australia's Children 2009-2020*. The Australian stance is broader than the global *Safeguarding Guidelines for the Catenian Association* relating to 'engaging with young people', and will extend to include support for children, youth and, adults, including sick and potentially vulnerable Catenian Brothers and their families, and Catenian Widows.

This document draws heavily on the following documents which the Association will uphold and act upon:

- *National Catholic Safeguarding Standards, Edition One 2019*
- *Catenian Association Safeguarding Guidelines for the Catenian Association - 'engaging with young people'*
- *Catenian Handbook-Manual of Procedure, May 2019*

Code of Conduct

'We will always strive to live our personal and business lives in accordance with the ideals of our Catholic faith, where every person matters'. (Our Values 3)

This document encompasses the Association's *Constitution, Rules, Regulations* and particularly the Association's *Aims and Values*.

Activities covered by these guidelines, for example, include:

- Contact with children (which is recognised as minimal);
- Activities arranged within the Catholic Educational framework;
- Support for youth through prize giving, scholarships, grants, via parish organisations, Universities, etc.
- Support for potentially vulnerable/elderly Catenian members and Widows – the many close friendships established throughout our Association are an essential element of its existence wherein we 'support and encourage Brothers, their families and widows as needs arise' (Aim 3) and 'through the Catenian Association Benevolent and Children's Fund' (Aim 4);
- Support for priests and religious – 'to help our clergy... in appropriate ways' (Aim 6);
- Training and interaction with Seminarians;

- On-going involvement with parishes and other Catholic organisations;

Management of Safe-Guarding

- The management of Safe-Guarding resides with the Provincial Safeguarding Officer, including an annual review of the safeguarding guidelines.
- Any issues arising from the Guidelines are to be directed to the relevant Provincial Safeguarding Officer and/or the appropriate Circle President or Vice President, including complaints.
- Any Brother organising or involved in directly running a function must abide by the guidelines and regulations that pertain to the Archdiocese or Diocese within which the said function is to occur. In order to do this, it is recognised that the organisers must be cognisant of the appropriate procedures that are required such as completion of a risk analyses (where relevant) and the necessity for what purposes a Brother may need to hold a Working with Children authority.

Key resource – Catholic Professional Standards Limited website - <https://www.cpsltd.org.au/>

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