

# COMMITMENT STATEMENT



The Sisters of St Joseph Lochinvar are committed to

- Maintaining zero tolerance for abuse, harm, or exploitation of children or adults at risk.
- Ensuring that all who minister under the auspices of the Congregation, including our leadership, our members, our staff, and volunteers, are responsible for creating and maintaining a safe culture for all children and adults.
- Promoting diversity and upholding justice for the most vulnerable within our community, including children and adults who identify as Aboriginal, Torres Strait Islander and those from culturally and/or linguistically diverse backgrounds, people with diverse sexuality and people with a disability.
- Proactively considering potential and actual risks, and addressing, reducing or eliminating the risk wherever possible.
- Responding sensitively to allegations and disclosures of child and adult abuse and reporting to the appropriate authorities within a timely manner.
- Ensuring our recruitment, employment and supervision processes are of high quality;
- Education and training in recognising abuse, responding to a disclosure and reporting an allegation for all engaged in working with children and adults at risk, either directly or indirectly.
- An effective Safeguarding Complaints Handling Policy and Reporting Procedure which is publicly available.
- Immediate intervention if there is suspicion that a child or adult at risk is subject to some form of harm or abuse, ensuring the person is protected and supported;
- Ensuring persons involved in an allegation of abuse will be treated with justice and compassion and have appropriate confidentiality maintained.
- Regular review of our safeguarding policies