

Safe Church Unit Charter

Introduction

The Uniting Church in Australia is committed to providing a safe place for all people.

Constitution Paragraph 32 and Regulation 3.1.5 of the Uniting Church in Australia provide the Synod with responsibility for general oversight, direction, and administration for the Church within their boundaries.

In line with the NSW Office of Children's Guardian, the Synod of NSW-ACT practices the Paramountcy Principle: the care and wellbeing of children and vulnerable people is the first and paramount consideration.

The Safe Church Unit is to support the Church's work in improving child safe policies and procedures, aiming for greater consistency in policy, procedures and data recording and the development of measures of success and enhanced education, training and compliance in this area.

Purpose of Synod SAFE CHURCH UNIT

The Synod Safe Church Unit will work closely with the National Safe Church Unit in the development and implementation of nationally consistent policy and practices to ensure the church and its agencies are safe for children and vulnerable people.

Responsibilities of the SAFE CHURCH UNIT will include

- Safe Church (training and processes)
- Person of Concern
- School Religious Education
- Working with Children
- Working with Vulnerable Persons
- Ethical ministry
- Mandatory reporting and Reportable Conduct
- Ensuring completion of the church's commitments to the Children's Royal Commission
- Redress matters
- Training and education as appropriate for the various functions

Governance

The Synod Standing Committee is responsible for the oversight of the Safe Church Unit.

The day to day operation of the Safe Church Unit is delegated to the Associate Secretary.

The Unit will work in close collaboration with the National Safe Church Unit and Synod Risk and compliance.