

In reply please quote: D22/72815

19 August 2022

**To:** Principals of MACS schools

**CC:** Principals and all school governors of RI/MPJP schools in the Archdiocese

of Melbourne

# **National Child Protection Week 2022**

#### **Main Points**

- This year's <u>National Child Protection Week</u> will take place from **Sunday 4 September** to **Saturday 10** September 2022.
- National Child Protection Week raises awareness about the community's collective responsibility for the
  care, safety and wellbeing of children and young people. This year, the focus is 'Every child, in every
  community, needs a fair go'.
- For Catholic schools, this provides an opportunity to emphasise their strong commitment to the safety and wellbeing of young people in their care, and the important role they play in creating safe and nurturing environments at school, online, at home and in the community.
- Key resources are available to support schools to promote conversations and activities among students, staff and families. Schools will need to discern the relevance of the below materials for their context.
- The resources developed by National Association for Prevention of Child Abuse and Neglect (NAPCAN) include:
  - posters and tip sheets
  - brochures
  - National Child Protection Week 2022 webinar program.
- When schools and communities talk about child safety and protection this includes online environments. The <u>eSafety Commissioner</u> has also developed a series of activities for people of all ages, including:
  - professional learning program for teachers
  - advice about common online concerns and problems young people face
  - online safety resources and training for teachers, schools and communities
  - advice for parents and carers to help children have safe experiences online.
- The Catholic Church in Australia will mark Safeguarding Sunday (formerly known as Child Protection Sunday) on Sunday 11 September 2022 at the conclusion of National Child Protection Week. A number of related <u>resources</u> for liturgical celebrations are available.

#### **Critical Dates**

- National Child Protection Week will take place from Sunday 4 September to Saturday 10 September
   2022
- The Catholic Church in Australia will mark Safeguarding Sunday on Sunday 11 September 2022.

### **Actions Required**

 Principals are encouraged to continue to engage their school community in discussion about child safety during <u>National Child Protection Week</u> and to use the available resources to promote conversations and activities.

## **Additional Information**

National Child Protection Week is coordinated by NAPCAN.

# **Contact/Enquiries**

• For all enquiries, please contact Ms Brooke Kilborn, Education Officer, Child Safety, on 03 9267 0228 or <a href="mailto:bkilborn@macs.vic.edu.au">bkilborn@macs.vic.edu.au</a>.

Jim Miles

**Executive Director**