

## Sharing Knowledge

***"Start by doing what is necessary, then what is possible and suddenly you are doing the impossible"***  
– St Francis of Assisi



### Sharing Knowledge Resource 6.

## Who Needs a Working With Children Check

As many of you will remember in 2018 the Archdiocese in collaboration with the Office of the Children's Guardian made changes to the *Fact Sheet: Who needs a Working With Children Check in Parishes* to include readers and collectors due to a few serious incidents that occurred in parishes involving readers and collectors. Since that decision was made, legislation has changed in terms of the implications around requesting a WWCC and the requirements of the Reportable Conduct Scheme which work together.

We have recently reviewed the Fact Sheet and in collaboration with the Office of the Children's Guardian agreed that we will no longer require readers and collectors to obtain a WWCC. However this does not mitigate a parishes responsibility to ensure probity when appointing volunteers to these positions. We strongly recommend that you consider using other risk mitigation strategies such as interviews, reference checks and National Criminal History Checks where appropriate.

On your Child-Related Activity Register (otherwise known as a WWCC register) you will be required to move readers and collectors to your archive tab and leave them there indefinitely. Please do not delete any of their WWCC information off your Child-Related Activity Register.

The Safeguarding Office has updated the Fact Sheet: Who needs a Working With Children Check in Parishes to reflect these changes. Please find updated Fact sheet available on the Safeguarding website to download. If you have any questions please do not hesitate to email [safeguardingenquiries@sydneycatholic.org](mailto:safeguardingenquiries@sydneycatholic.org)



**We request that all Priests of our Parishes display the Safeguarding notice below in all future parish bulletins.**

A message from the Archdiocese of Sydney:

Child sexual abuse is a crime. The appropriate people to deal with crimes are the police. If you, or anyone you know, have been abused, please contact the police. Alternatively, you can contact the Safeguarding and Ministerial Integrity Office at **(02) 9390 5810** or [safeguardingenquiries@sydneycatholic.org](mailto:safeguardingenquiries@sydneycatholic.org). You may also want to speak to your Parish Priest who will be able to provide support and guidance. The Archdiocese has a legal obligation to report crimes to the police.