



Diocese of Wilcannia-Forbes

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PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS REQUIREMENTS

All clerics or religious who come to the Diocese of Wilcannia-Forbes to carry out a ministry or apostolate are required to meet NSW Working with Children Check (WWCC) and Towards Healing requirements.

Working with Children Check

A PRIEST OR RELIGIOUS BROTHER/SISTER IS NOT PERMITTED TO ENGAGE IN PUBLIC MINISTRY IN THE DIOCESE WITHOUT A CURRENT CLEARED EMPLOYEE WWCC.

This applies whether a priest or religious is appointed to work in the Diocese, provides supply or visits the Diocese.

A priest or religious appointed to or working in the Diocese must provide a NSW Employee WWCC number for verification by the Diocese.

A supply or visiting priest or religious who is a NSW resident must provide a NSW Employee WWCC number for verification by the Diocese.

If a supply or visiting priest or religious is an interstate resident then an interstate WWCC is permissible unless he/she works more than 30 days in NSW in a calendar year. The priest or religious must supply details of the interstate WWCC check to the Diocese and advise of the number of days worked in NSW in the current calendar year and where.

Towards Healing

In general terms, paragraphs 45.6 and 45.7 of Towards Healing require that

Where a cleric or religious is coming into a diocese to carry out a ministry or apostolate, the diocese shall ask for a written statement from the cleric or religious indicating whether there have been any substantiated or potential complaints of abuse. (Par 45.6)

The diocese or institute where the cleric or religious previously lived and worked, shall also provide a statement in writing to the new diocese indicating whether it knows of any substantiated or potential complaints of abuse, or whether it considers that there would be an unacceptable risk to children, young people or vulnerable adults if the person were to be allowed to engage in particular kinds of ministry. (Par 45.7)

It is the responsibility of the cleric or religious concerned to provide the statement under par 45.6 and to request the provision of the statement under par 45.7.