



# 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 be compliant with both Civil and Church requirements. These requirements must be satisfied prior to exercising ministry in the Diocese.

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

### **Civil Requirement: 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.

### **Church Requirement: Safeguarding Statement or Individual Safeguarding Declaration and Disclosure Form**

Australian Catholic Safeguarding Ltd (ACSL) have developed a *Safeguarding Statement form* to replace former *Towards Healing Declarations 45.6 and 45.7*. The Safeguarding Statement form allows visiting Clergy who have not been subject to a substantiated complaint or are not subject to any ongoing safeguarding complaints or allegations to receive clearance to minister by confirming they are of good standing and by having the document signed by the relevant Church Authority. Clergy and Religious who are subject to substantiated and/or ongoing safeguarding allegations must disclose this information on the *Individual Safeguarding Declaration and Disclosure form*. However, confirmation of a cleric's good standing does not verify his WWCC clearance.