

Working with Vulnerable People Registration

Thank you for volunteering at a Catholic Education, Archdiocese of Canberra & Goulburn School, your assistance is greatly valued and will provide significant support to the students and staff.

In the ACT, the Working with Vulnerable People (Background Checking) Act 2011 commenced on 8 November 2012 with the aim to reduce the risk of harm or neglect to children and vulnerable people in the ACT.

Under the legislation most people who work or volunteer with children in school activities must have a Working With Vulnerable People (WWVP) registration.

If you have a WWVP card, thank you for taking the time to register and for your efforts to keep all children safe. If you do not hold a WWVP card, there are a number of circumstances when a volunteer does not need to have a WWVP card to work with children in a school setting.

You are not required to hold a WWVP card to volunteer if:

- you are under 16 years old;
- you have not worked or volunteered with vulnerable people for more than three days in the last four weeks and seven days in the last 12 months (Short Term Exemption);
- you are registered under a similar law in another State or Territory (for example NSW – Working with Children Check), as long as you do not work or volunteer for more than 28 days in 12 months;
- you are a school student on a work experience placement or doing practical training.

It is your responsibility to be able to show that you meet the requirements around any of the exemptions listed above, for example that you meet the time limitations for the Short Term Exemption. The school you wish to assist will ask you to sign a declaration on page 2 confirming you understand your obligations and responsibilities under the legislation. It can be completed electronically or on paper.

If you have any questions about whether you meet the requirements, please contact a member of the Leadership Team at the school to confirm you meet the requirement of an exemption and do not need to have a WWVP card to assist.

WWVP registration for volunteers is free and if you would like to register as a WWVP volunteer, please go to the Access Canberra website and complete the application:

<https://www.myaccount.act.gov.au/WWVPNDIS/s/wwwvp-ndis-new-application-v2>

Declaration

I,

(insert full name, address and occupation of person making the declaration)

Declare as follows:

I am aware of the requirements of the Working with Vulnerable People (Background Checking) Act 2011 (the WWVP Act) and the requirement for a person to be registered to engage in a regulated activity.

I am aware that engaging in a regulated activity without registration is an offence punishable by a fine proscribed by the WWVP Act, and that doing so knowingly or recklessly is punishable by a fine and/or imprisonment.

I am exempt from the requirement to hold, or not required to hold, a WWVP registration.

I have not in the ACT or under a corresponding law in other jurisdictions been refused WWVP registration or had the registration suspended or cancelled under the WWVP Act.

I am not aware of any criminal investigations, convictions and non-convictions relevant to me in the ACT or other jurisdictions which may restrict me being issued WWVP registration.

I am not aware of any other information which would disqualify me from obtaining registration under the WWVP Act or corresponding law in other jurisdictions.

Signature _____

Declared at (School/Place)

on (date)