

Student Protection Information Session

the primary school

18 January 2012



Catholic Education Office

Diocese of Toowoomba

What is harm?

9 What is harm

- (1) Harm, to a child, is any detrimental effect of a significant nature on the child's physical, psychological or emotional wellbeing.*
- (2) It is immaterial how the harm is caused.*
- (3) Harm can be caused by—*
 - (a) physical, psychological or emotional abuse or neglect; or*
 - (b) sexual abuse or exploitation.*
- (4) Harm can be caused by—*
 - (a) a single act, omission or circumstance; or*
 - (b) a series or combination of acts, omissions or circumstances.*

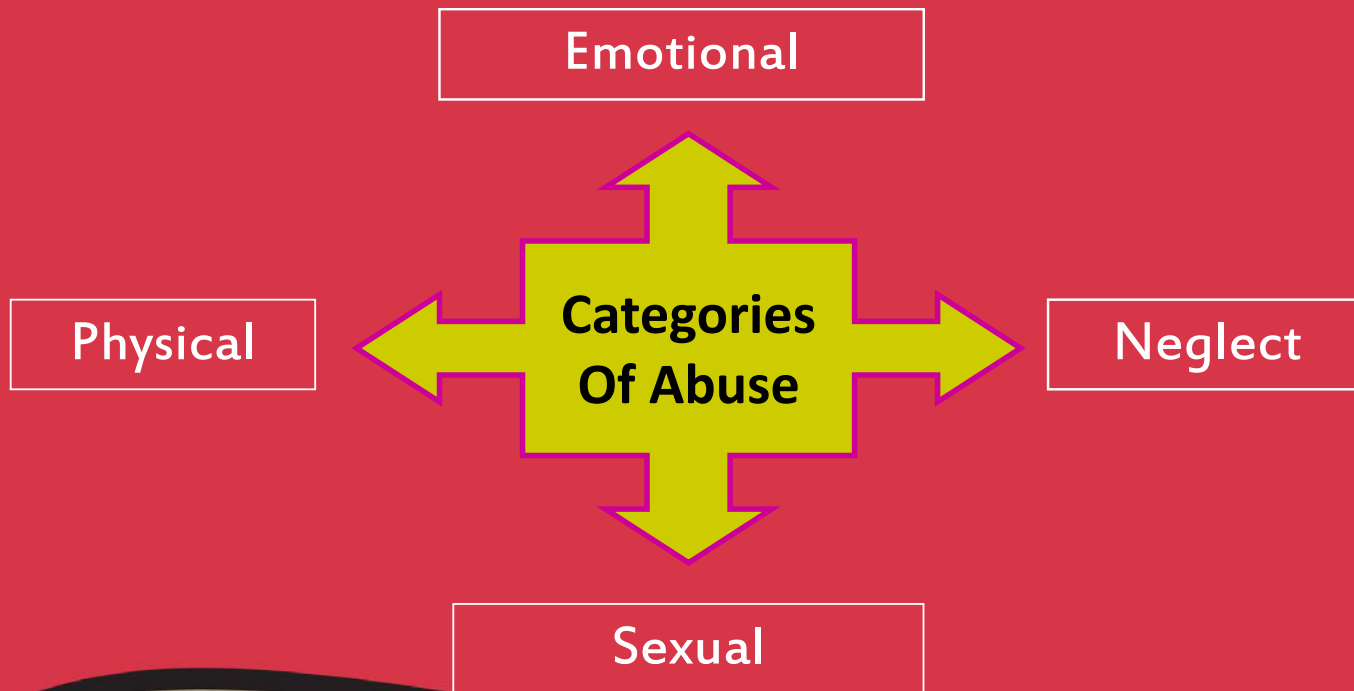
Child Protection Act 1999



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Types of Harm



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Reasonable grounds to suspect harm

- **Student Disclosure**
- **Someone else reports**
 - Information comes from a relative, friend or other that a student has been harmed /risk of harm
 - Anonymous Report
- **Direct Observation**
 - Employee observes a student being harmed by another person
 - An employee's observation of a student's behaviour / physical appearance or knowledge of children leads them to suspect harm



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Some signs of harm

- **Neglect:** Concerns around supervision at home; not having lunch at school, personal hygiene issues; constant tiredness; absences from school
- **Emotional:** Isolation, developmental delay; risky and self-destructive behaviours; fear of new situations; over reaction to mistakes or criticism
- **Sexual:** Sexually inappropriate behaviours; physical injuries; overly protective of siblings; isolation; reluctance to go home
- **Physical:** unexplained injuries; bruising; minor repeated injuries; destructive behaviours



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What Reporting Form do I use?

Toowoomba Catholic Education uses 4 form types for reporting harm:

1. A ***Category 1 Section 366 Mandatory Reporting Form***, used to report sexual abuse or risk of sexual abuse by an **employee**
2. A ***Category 2 Professional or Criminal Misconduct Mandatory Reporting Form***, used to report professional or criminal misconduct by an **employee**
3. A ***Category 3 Minor Incident Mandatory Reporting Form***, used to report a minor incident involving an **employee**
4. A ***Category 1 Section 10 Mandatory Reporting Form***, used for reporting harm or risk of harm by **any person, including themselves**, (excluding sexual abuse or risk of sexual abuse by an employee).



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Where do I find the reporting forms?

<https://ceo.twb.catholic.edu.au/Administration/StudentProtection/Pages/default.aspx>

The review has led to changes being made to the way in which staff in our schools will be required to report 'harm' and 'risk of harm' of students.

A phased implementation of the changes has been endorsed by the Director, Catholic Education Office. This phased approach includes:

- mandatory training facilitated by the Catholic Education Office from January to July 2011 for all school staff so they understand their obligations
- expectations of Principals and staff that do not attend Catholic Education Office facilitated mandatory training to conduct and attend in-school training to ensure all school staff understand their obligations
- dates by which all schools and their staff will be expected to comply with the new reporting requirements.







- Childwise
- NAPCAN Foundation
- Bullying. No Way!
- iSafe
- Commission for Children, Young People and Child Guardian
- <http://www.communities.qld.gov.au/family/childprotection/>
- Cybersafety resource Australian Government
- Safe Online Behaviour - resource for parents
- Bullying Webinars

▫ Add new link

The *Student Protection Policy and Procedure 2010* is now available electronically on this intranet and the Catholic Education – Diocese of Toowoomba website.

Risk Management

The Risk Management component of the *Student Protection and Risk Management Kit* (2006) is still current and will be reviewed during 2011.

Type	Name
	Blue Card Information (1)
	Mandatory Harm Reporting Forms (4)
	Category 1 Section 10 - Mandatory Reporting Form
	Category 1 Section 366 - Mandatory Reporting Form
	Category 2 - Professional or Criminal Misconduct - Reporting Form
	Category 3 - Minor Incident - Reporting Form

Our Local Contacts

Contacts for sending Mandatory Reporting Forms:

- **Police:** Toowoomba Child Protection Investigation Unit,
Phone :4631 6355, Fax: 4615 3066
- **Child Safety:** South West Regional Intake Service,
Phone: 1300 683 390, Fax: 4616 1796
- **CEO:** Peter Simpson, Phone: 4637 1421, Fax: 4637 1499



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