

UKRAINIAN CATHOLIC CHURCH IN AUSTRALIA, NEW ZEALAND AND OCEANIA

Standard 8 Outline 2026



UKRAINIAN CATHOLIC CHURCH IN AUSTRALIA, NEW ZEALAND & OCEANIA

STANDARD 8 OUTLINE

“How precious is your unfailing love, O God!

All humanity finds shelter in the shadow of your wings.”

Psalm 36:7-8

STANDARD 8: Physical and Online Environments

Standard 8 (with 4 criteria) focuses on the responsibility of parishes to minimise the opportunity for abuse to occur in both physical and online environments.

It requires both the parish and its personnel to be proactive in recognising and reducing safeguarding risks.

The core aspects of this responsibility are outlined in the Safeguarding Policy Statement, Safeguarding Code of Conduct and the Safeguarding Risk Management Strategy, which outline appropriate supervision, oversight and behaviour towards children and adults at risk.

This includes considerations of managing risks associated with third parties or contractors and use of facilities by others. Physical and online environments promote safety and contain appropriate safeguards to minimise the opportunity for children and adults to be harmed.

Based on this standard, parishes need to do the following and use the template provided to them by the eparchy.

Risk Category/Description:

Identify potential risks within the parish environment and activities and assess the likelihood and impact of each risk.

Once risks are identified with normal activities/services they need to be analysed to understand their likelihood (probability of occurrence) and potential impact (severity of consequences).

Risk Management/Response:

This involves developing and implementing strategies to address the identified risks. Common strategies include risk prevention, reduction or acceptance.

Ongoing monitoring and evaluation of the risk management plan is essential to ensure that the implemented strategies are effective and to adapt to changing circumstances or as new risks are identified.

Develop and implement strategies to reduce identified risks, such as staff training, supervision, and clear guidelines for interacting with children, young people and adults at risk.



Risk Identification		Risk Assessment			Risk Management
Category	Description	Likelihood	Risk Level	Consequence	Action
Physical Environment 1. Nth Melb Saturday language school	Where does risk arise in the parish?				What can be put in place to manage the gaps?
	Entrance to toilet set back from main public areas Limited visibility of children and young people arriving at/leaving the venue.	Probable	Low	Children and young people not feeling safe arriving and leaving the venue Children and young people being harmed by outsiders after they are dropped off by their parents when they walk to the venue General public may access the toilet facilities and harm children and young people.	Lock external door to toilets as part of staff responsibilities for the time students are attending Roster staff on grounds during class time
	Mixed ages of children and young people attending (5-16)	Probable	Low	Bullying Older young people may act inappropriately with/around younger children. Peer pressure could create barriers for some children and young people to stop them making a complaint or raise concerns. Parish does not know much about the characteristics of the children that could make them more vulnerable to abuse/harm.	Staff to hold information session/consultation with children, young people and parents on the Code of Conduct etc and complaint handling policy. Discuss whether children and young people understand how to make a complaint and seek feedback on what else to include. Develop a child safety and complaints information sheet for children, young people and parents with all the information they need. display on the parish website and include in newsletters. Use accessible language so children can understand. Display child safety poster at the venue.

