**EXPRESSION OF INTEREST**

Formation and Education

Pastoral Ministries
**P** 02 4979 1346 **M** 0414962922
**E** rose.mcallister@mn.catholic.org.au

**Children’s Ministry Advisory Group**

Please complete and email rose.mcallister@mn.catholic.org.au by Friday March 12 2021

The DoMN Children’s Ministry Advisory Groups main role is to assist the Education Officer with teaching and learning ideas and resource recommendations to enhance the faith formation experience for ***ALL*** children within our local communities. Children’s Ministry includes and is not limited to; Catholic Sacraments of Initiation, Special Religious Education (SRE), Children’s Liturgy and Youth and Outreach Groups such as Activ8.

The aim of this advisory group would be to develop a creative and contemporary approach to Children’s Ministry which not only captures the essence of what it means to be Catholic in the 21st Century, but ignites the flame of faith for all children which would reach into their families.

The advisory group will aim to rethink and reimagine how our diocese could help build communities for our young people, where they learn about who they are in Christ in a safe environment and where they feel a ‘real’ sense of belonging.

The advisory group will be encouraged to ‘think big’ and bravely about improving the children’s ministry programs that we already offer and create a new way forward that is inclusive, formative, and engaging.

The Children’s Ministry Advisory Group will assist in decisions about which resources and learning and teaching opportunities could teach young people about Christ and the Church in a way that captures their interest and encourages them to seek to know more.

The Children’s Ministry Advisory Group will have the enthusiasm and genuine interest in bringing Jesus’ message into the 21st Century so our young people encounter his spirit in the world around them every day.

The skill set required for the group is listed below. Members do not necessarily need to have strengths in all areas:

* Knowledge and understanding of the Diocese of Maitland-Newcastle Religious Education curriculum (K-12)
* Strong academic background and/or knowledge of resources of Scripture, Theology, Liturgy, Sacramentality and Religious Programs suitable for outreach with young people.
* Experience of delivering sacramental programs, children’s liturgy programs and/or Special Religious Education (SRE) programs, including knowledge of the DoMN SRE Curriculum.
* Experience in developing and/or delivering contemporary and engaging faith formation experiences for young people (ages 3 -17years).
* Make informed recommendations for the enhancement of current programs and inclusion of new faith formation opportunities for young people.
* Knowledge of interactive and online learning and teaching platforms that could improve the teaching and learning experience for young people and their families.
* A genuine interest in developing and delivering faith formation experiences that are fun and relevant to the young people living in today’s society.
* Able to make informed recommendations regarding up to date and new programs that are used in parishes and in another Diocese, which are effective and engaging.
* Willingness to assist in evaluating relevance of resources and programs openly and honestly.
* Ability to access and use Information Technology such as Moodle, Zoom (for meetings)
* Ability to assist in delivering faith formation opportunities to children.
* Available to meet, in person or online. It is envisaged no more than four Children’s Ministry Advisory Group meetings would be held a year
* Strong interpersonal skills and the ability to work as part of a team
* Agree to commit to the Diocese of Maitland Newcastle privacy policy
* Current Working with Children’s Check and National Police Check.

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| **What is your connection the Diocese of Maitland- Newcastle?**  |
| **I am interested in joining this Advisory group because …** |
| **I would bring the following skills, experience and capacities to the Advisory group.**  |
| **I’d like you to know the following about me …**  |
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| **APPLICANT DECLARATION**I declare that the information provided is true and correct to the best of my knowledge. |

 | Signed \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_Date \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ |