



MercyWorks

SISTERS OF MERCY
IN AUSTRALIA & PAPUA NEW GUINEA

ONE TO ONE INTERACTIONS WITH CHILDREN POLICY

Policy Number:	24	Version:	1
Written by:	Margery Jackman	Effective From:	2 September 2020
Reason of Review:	CPSL Guidelines	Review Date:	As per schedule

INTRODUCTION

Mercy Works Limited (MWL) promotes social justice through local and overseas relief and development activities that are part of the mission and vision of the Sisters of Mercy in Australia and Papua New Guinea.

MWL is committed to ensuring that we accurately represent our activities to the people we work with, our donors and the public.

1. CONTENT

This document contains the Mercy Works Limited (MWL) One to One Interactions with Children Policy.

2. SCOPE

This Policy provides guidance to MWL Board Directors, committee members, employees contractors, volunteers, (defined as Workers) in relation to their work with/for MWL.

To meet the regulatory requirements, MWL has reasonable processes in place to ensure the procedures and tools for seeking informed consent meet ethical guidelines. These are made available in the local languages of PNG (Tok Pisin) and Timor Leste (Tetum).

3. POLICY

MWL is committed to creating an environment where one-to-one ministry to children is conducted in ways that identify and mitigate risks to children, without compromising a child's right to privacy, access to information, social connection and learning opportunities. Such ministries include but are not limited to:

- Programs in Australia
- Programs in Papua New Guinea
- Programs in Timor Leste

All one-to-one interactions with children conducted by volunteers are supervised by either MWL co-ordinators or the relevant professional staff e.g. teachers in a school.

Interactions are conducted in an open or visible space or within the clear line of sight of another adult.

When an activity is conducted on-line, the activity is conducted in accordance with the MWL Acceptable Use of Electronic Communications Systems Policy

4. PURPOSE

This policy applies to all MWL personnel involved in one-to-one interactions with children.

5. DEFINITIONS

"Child" means any person under the age of 18 years, of the purpose of this policy.

6. AUTHORITY

This policy is approved and reviewed by the Board.

7. RELATED POLICIES/DOCUMENTS

Code of Conduct Policy
Child Safeguarding Policy
Acceptable Use of Electronic Communications Systems Policy
Safeguarding Risk Management Procedures
Mercy Connect One to One Mentoring Guidelines

8. CONTACTS

Sally Bradley RSM
Executive Director
Mercy Works Ltd
Level 3, 6 Victoria Road
Parramatta NSW 2150
02 9564 1911
mercyworks@mercyworks.org.au

9. POLICY REVIEW


Review of this Policy, related forms and resources will be undertaken every 2 years by the Executive Director with the approval of MWL Board.

10. REVISION/ MODIFICATION HISTORY

Date	Version	Current Title	Summary of Changes	Approval Date	Commencement Date
2 September 2020	1	One to One Interactions with Children Policy	New	2 September 2020	3 September 2020

11. APPROVAL DATE/REVISION SCHEDULE

Approved by: Board, Mercy Works Limited
Date: 2 September 2020
To be Revised: 2 September 2022

Board Chair Signature	
Date	18.09.20.