

## **ST MICHAEL'S PARISH OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH & SAFETY POLICY**

### **INTRODUCTION**

The Occupational Health and Safety Act 2004 (OH&S Act) was enacted prescribe a number of measures designed to minimise industrial accidents and work-related illnesses. Among other things it imposes a general duty on an employer to provide and maintain, so far as reasonably practicable, a working environment that is safe and without risk to health.

It also imposes an obligation on the occupier of the workplace to take such measures as are reasonably practicable to ensure that the workplace, and the means of access to and egress from it are safe and without risk to health.

### **PURPOSE**

This policy acknowledges the obligations of both the employer and the employee in ensuring that the health and safety of all employees, volunteers, contractors, parishioners and visitors to St Michael's Parish are responsibly and systematically accommodated.

To inform employees, volunteers, contractors and other parties that OH&S is an integral part of all operations at St Michael's Parish.

Responsibility for OH&S matters rests with the Parish Priest.

### **PRINCIPLES**

St Michael's Parish is committed to:

- Providing employees, visitors, contractors, all parishioners and other parties with a safe and healthy workplace / place of worship / Church;
- Ensuring that at St Michael's Parish we meet our OH&S obligations;
- Providing OH&S information, training and supervision to employees, volunteers, contractors and other relevant parties;
- Consulting with employees, Health and Safety Representatives on OH&S issues;
- Resolving any OH&S issues by following OH&S Issue Resolution procedures.

### **PROCEDURES**

St Michael's Parish is responsible for:

- providing adequate resources for implementing this policy which includes assigning responsibilities for OH&S duties;
- maintaining, so far as is reasonably practicable, an environment that is safe and without risks to physical and mental health;
- providing adequate facilities for the welfare of all employees, volunteers, contractors;

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- providing information, training and supervisions for employees and contractors enabling them to work in a safe and healthy manner.

St Michael's Parish employees, volunteers and contractors will be responsible for:

- fulfilling their duties under OH&S legislation and acting in a safe manner;
- taking reasonable care of their own health and safety and that of others affected by their actions;
- complying with safety procedures and directions; and
- acting in accordance with agreed procedures for accident and incident reporting and reporting potential hazards to the Parish Priest, Safeguarding officer or his representative.

St Michael's Parish is committed to continual improvement of its OH&S performance.

All employees, volunteers, contractors, parishioners and visitors to St Michael's Parish will:

- operate in healthy and safe workplace environments; and
- fulfil their duties under OH&S legislation and act in a safe manner.