GOVERNMENT OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA

Working with Children Check

Factsheet CAT11
Categories of child-related work
11: a religious organisation

This factsheet has been designed specifically for work undertaken in connection with category 11 and is intended as a guide only. Examples are not intended to be exhaustive and do not include all circumstances or variations based on the specific role and associated responsibilities. If you require assistance translating or interpreting the information in this factsheet, please call the Translating and Interpreting Service (TIS National) on 131 450.

A religious organisation is seen as an organisation whose primary purpose is the promotion of a religious ethos or set of religious ideas.

Roles considered to be in child-related work

Some examples of roles considered to be in child-related work are listed below. Please note that in all cases, for a role to be considered to be in child-related work, the **usual duties** of that role must involve, or be likely to involve, **contact** with a **child**. The examples provided may also be subject to exemptions.

Roles include:

- religious leaders including Ministers of religion, Rabbis, Priests, Acolytes, Imams and others where the usual duties of these leaders involve contact with children
- Special Ministers/Extraordinary Ministers who administer communion to children as part of the general congregation
- paid youth leaders who provide religious services for youth attending a local church or mosque
- people who **volunteer** their services for religious instruction (i.e., Sunday school), church youth activities or children's religious story telling
- chaplaincy services provided to people, including children, in the religious community
- adult high school **students** who assist in extra-curricular religious activities involving contact with a child as part of their usual duties.

Exemptions

The following exemptions apply to this category:

- child volunteers under 18 years of age
- unpaid students on placement under 18 years of age
- **short-term visitors** to Western Australia
- a **parent** volunteering in the same activity in which their child participates, or ordinarily participates, refer to Factsheet CRW03: Exemptions, The parent volunteer exemption
- one-off national events or national tours, refer to Factsheet CRW02: Exemptions, One-off national events and national tours.

For frequently asked questions relating to this category, please refer to Factsheet ORG09: WWC Check, Religious sector.

Definitions of **bold** terms can be found in the Working with Children Check glossary at www.workingwithchildren.wa.gov.au