



Marist Brothers Public Apology and Redress FAQ Sheet

How we use the word Survivor

Throughout this document, we use the word Survivor to refer to individuals who have experienced abuse. We acknowledge and respect that people may choose different terms to describe their own experiences, including tangata whaiora, victim, thriver, or other personal identifiers.

Who is making the apology?

The public apology acknowledges the abuse and harm caused by Marist Brothers FMS and lay staff at Marist Institutions, including schools and boarding hostels. This apology is separate from the wider Catholic Church and other faith-based institutions, who we encourage to also recognize abuse within their jurisdictions.

What is the Survivor Public Apology & Redress Committee?

The Survivor Public Apology & Redress Committee (SPAR Committee) was established by the New Zealand Marist Brothers to gather input from Survivors on the form and delivery of the apology, ensuring it is done with care and support.

Who is part of the Survivor Public Apology & Redress Committee?

The SPAR Committee consists of Survivors who were individually invited to participate. The members represent diverse genders, cultures, and ethnicities, and have all experienced varying degrees of abuse. Their role is to gather, collate, and provide recommendations to the Administration Group for executing a public apology.

The SPAR committee will be supported by the Administrative Group who will be guided by the Survivors in implementing their recommendations for a public apology. The Administrative Group includes a Marist Brother, New Zealand Marist Brothers Trust Board employees, cultural and restorative justice advisors. Their role will be to listen to the SPAR committee and their guidance and facilitate the public apology event on behalf of the Marist Brothers.

What is expected of Survivors?

Survivors are invited to provide input but we don't want you to feel you have to. You can request to stop receiving correspondence at any time by emailing PSO@pacificdps.com.

What will input or participation look like?

A 'Survivor Voice Feedback Form' will be provided to all Survivors of abuse at a Marist Institute, asking for input on key aspects of the public apology event and expectations for the apology.

What if a 'Survivor Voice Feedback Form' isn't suitable for me

If written feedback is not suitable for you, please contact the Professional Standards Office at PSO@pacificdps.com to discuss alternative ways to provide your input. We can talk with you on the phone to get your feedback if that works better for you.

Will input be confidential?

The 'Survivor Voice Feedback Form' will only be shared with the SPAR Committee and the Professional Standards Manager. Feedback will be used to identify common themes and recommendations for the Administration Group. No personal information will be shared outside the SPAR Committee or Administration Group. Survivors can also choose to provide their input anonymously.

Where will a public apology be held?

The 'Survivor Voice Feedback Form' will ask for input on the location. The SPAR Committee will consider this information and make recommendations for the venue.

When will a public apology be held?

Currently, there is no confirmed date for the public apology. Once input and feedback have been collected, the Administration Group will work with the Marist Brothers to propose a date for the SPAR Committee to consider.

How will a public apology look?

The public apology will be shaped by feedback from Survivors and advocates. It is important that the apology reflects the multicultural society of Aotearoa New Zealand and meets the needs of Survivors.

Will the public apology address redress?

Our vision is to ensure that the apology is grounded in meaningful action. We are committed to developing and upholding a robust, accessible redress process as an essential part of moving forward with integrity.

Yes, the public apology will address redress, including financial redress, professional counseling, and support. Further details on redress and future support will be provided during the apology event.

What if I still have questions?

If you have further questions about this process or you may wish to provide your feedback other than in writing please contact the Jonathan Sankey, Professional Standards Manager, at PSO@pacificdps.com or call (+64) 022 648 4014.

Jonathan is a lay employee who supports survivors throughout their journey. He is not a member of the Marist Brothers.

Feedback Closure

We encourage those who wish to provide input to do so before 12th of September.

What if I need support?

If reading this has been hard and you would like to talk with someone, please contact one of the support providers listed below.

Safe to talk:

Website: <https://www.safetotalk.nz/>

Phone 0800 044 334 or Text: 4334

Tautoko Tane:

Website: <https://tautokotane.nz/>

TOAH-NNEST:

Website: <https://toah-nnest.org.nz/getting-help/>