

WHOM TO CONTACT...

Whom to contact to discuss safeguarding issues which are not related to abuse

Parish Panel or equivalent:

.....
.....

Whom to contact if you have a suspicion, concern, knowledge or allegation of abuse

RCB Safeguarding Casework Officers:

.....
.....

If it is an emergency situation or you do not wish to contact the RCB Safeguarding Casework Officer you can contact

Police contact for allegations that do not relate to members of the clergy:

.....
.....

Police contact for allegations that relate to members of the clergy:

.....
.....

Child Protection Service:

.....
.....

For any other safeguarding queries contact:
safeguarding@rcbcoi.org

**AND WHAT DOES THE
LORD REQUIRE OF
YOU? TO ACT JUSTLY
AND TO LOVE MERCY
AND TO WALK HUMBLY
WITH YOUR GOD.**

MICAH 6:8



**CHILD
SAFEGUARDING
POLICY**

SUMMARY LEAFLET

To view the complete Child Safeguarding Policy and accompanying Guidance go to:

www.safeguarding.ireland.anglican.org

EMAIL

safeguarding@rcbcoi.org

POLICY STATEMENT

The Church of Ireland acknowledges its duty of care to safeguard, protect and promote the welfare of all children sharing in its ministry. We are committed to ensuring that safeguarding reflects statutory responsibilities, government regulation and complies with best practice.

The Church of Ireland pledges to work alongside parents, carers and statutory authorities, to value and support children as important members of our church community, to ensure they have a positive and safe experience in church activities.

The Child Safeguarding Policy applies to all church personnel and is recognised in Chapter XVI of the Constitution of the Church of Ireland.

The Child Safeguarding Policy is structured under 3 standards (Protecting, Responding and Complying). These are broken down into a series of indicators which are contained in this leaflet. Further detailed procedures to assist with implementation of this policy are included in the Guidance available at: www.safeguarding.ireland.anglican.org



STANDARD 1: PROTECTING INDICATORS

Dioceses, parishes & relevant church organisations **must**:

- 1.1 Ensure the safe recruitment of personnel who work with children including AccessNI checks for those in regulated activity and Garda vetting checks for those undertaking relevant work
- 1.2 Ensure the implementation of effective codes of behaviour for children and the adults that work with them
- 1.3 Ensure that all activities with children (whether in person or online) are assessed and mitigation measures are put in place to manage safeguarding risks
- 1.4 Have clearly written complaints and whistleblowing procedures which are easily accessible
- 1.5 Ensure that all church personnel attend safeguarding training, induction and role specific training relevant to their needs
- 1.6 Have in place a plan and process to ensure the communication of safeguarding to children, their parents and carers, members of the Church and external bodies
- 1.7 Ensure that relevant procedures are in place to manage groups not covered by this policy but using church property to work with children

STANDARD 2: RESPONDING INDICATORS

Dioceses, parishes & relevant church organisations **must**:

- 2.1 Ensure there is effective reporting and risk management procedures for child safeguarding suspicions, concerns, knowledge or allegations which meet the threshold for reporting. These procedures must be compliant with national and church law and respect the primacy of any investigation by the statutory authorities
- 2.2 Ensure that appropriate support and care is in place for the complainant if the respondent is a member of church personnel
- 2.3 Ensure that appropriate support and management is in place if the respondent is a member of church personnel
- 2.4 Ensure there is effective risk management and mitigation measures in place when the statutory authorities conclude their investigation if the respondent is a member of church personnel
- 2.5 Ensure effective practice in line with national and church law on the management of persons of concern taking part in church services or activities
- 2.6 Ensure effective information sharing procedures are in place to manage risk to children in line with civil law and statutory guidance

STANDARD 3: COMPLYING INDICATORS

Dioceses, parishes & relevant church organisations **must**:

- 3.1 Maintain a robust system of compliance with regular audit and reporting
- 3.2 Have in place and implement a safeguarding plan to address recommendations or non-compliance with this policy including the provision of training and communication