



Diocese of Clonfert

Safeguarding Children

Code of Behaviour for Adults caring for Children and Young People

It is important for all personnel to:

- Treat all children/young people with respect and dignity.
- Treat all children/young people equally.
- Model positive and appropriate behaviour to all children/young people they come into contact with.
- Be aware of the Church's child protection and child safeguarding policy.
- Challenge and report abusive and potentially abusive behaviour.
- Develop a culture of openness, honesty and safety.
- Develop a culture where children/young people have permission to tell and to talk about any concerns or worries that they may have.
- Respect each child's boundaries and support them to develop their own understanding and sense of their rights.
- Be aware of their responsibility for the safety of all children/young people in their care.
- Work in open environments.
- Help children/young people to know what they can do if they have a problem.
- Follow correct procedures on the appropriate use of technology as per *Safeguarding Children Parish Hand book for the Western Province (2017)* which can be found at www.clonfertdiocese.ie.

Adults must never:

- Hit or otherwise physically assault or abuse children/young people.
- Develop sexual relationships with children/young people.
- Develop relationships with children/young people that could in any way be deemed exploitative or abusive.
- Act in any way that may be abusive or may place a child at risk of abuse.
- Use language, make suggestions or offer advice that is inappropriate, offensive or abusive.
- Do things for a child of a personal nature that they can do themselves.
- Condone or participate in behaviour that is illegal, unsafe or abusive.
- Act in any way that is intended to intimidate, shame, humiliate, belittle or degrade.
- Engage in discriminatory behaviour or language in relation to race, culture, age, gender, disability, religion, sexual orientation or political views.
- Consume alcohol, tobacco or illegal drugs while having responsibility for or in the presence of children/young people.

In general, it is best practice not to:

- Be alone with a child/children/young people.
- Take a child/children/young people to your own home/any area where they will be alone with you.
- Involve children/young people in one-to-one contact. (If one-to-one contact with children/young people is necessary, see additional guidance in *Safeguarding Children Parish Handbook for the Western Province (2017)* which can be found at www.clonfertdiocese.ie)

For further information on Safeguarding Children within the Diocese of Clonfert, contact
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091-841560 or 083-8791745



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For further information on the Diocese of Clonfert Policy and Procedures for Safeguarding Children, visit
www.clonfertdiocese.ie

Updated October 2021