

## Childline Call, Chat, Text

Childline is open every day and is for all children and young people up to the age of 18 in Ireland.

You can talk with Childline in confidence, about anything that might be on your mind, and those who answer you won't judge you, give out to you or tell you what to do. They are there to listen and they will help you to figure out the best solution for you.

**You can contact Childline for free at any time of the day or night by calling 1800 66 66 66.**

You can also chat with Childline live on this website, or, if you prefer to text, you can contact Childline by sending a text to 50101.

[www.childline.ie](http://www.childline.ie)



## Safeguarding Children Policy Statement

As a constituent member of the Catholic Church in Ireland, we recognise and uphold the dignity and rights of all children, are committed to ensuring their safety and well-being, and will work in partnership with parents/guardians to do this. We recognise each child as a gift from God, and we value and encourage the participation of children in all activities that enhance their spiritual, physical, emotional, intellectual and social development.

All Church personnel (including clergy, religious, staff and volunteers) have a responsibility to safeguard children through promoting their welfare, health and development in a safe and caring environment that supports their best interests and prevents abuse.

If you have a child safety concern or wish to report an allegation of child abuse, please contact one of our Diocesan Designated Liaison Persons who are responsible for receiving/managing concerns and complaints relating to safeguarding that involve Church personnel or contact the statutory bodies listed opposite.

### Designated Liaison Persons:

Mrs Mary Gormley  
087-2882500

Rev Ciaran Kitching  
090-9676151

### TUSLA

Child and

Family Agency:

Galway/Roscommon  
091-546366

Offaly/Laois  
057-8692567

Garda National  
Protective

Services Bureau:

Harcourt Square,  
Dublin 2

Tel: 01 666 3430 / 3423

Garda Confidential  
Service:

Tel: 1800 666 111

For further information on Safeguarding Children within the Diocese of Clonfert, contact

**Ms Isabelle Mulkern, Safeguarding Co-ordinator  
Diocese of Clonfert, Coorheen, Loughrea, Co. Galway  
091-841560 or 083-8791745**



For further information on the Diocese of Clonfert Policy and Procedures for Safeguarding Children, visit [www.clonfertdiocese.ie](http://www.clonfertdiocese.ie).

Updated October 2021



## Diocese of Clonfert Safeguarding Children

## A Word of Welcome for Parents, Guardians and Children

Dear Parent/Guardian,

We are delighted your child will partake actively in the life of our faith community. All our church activities are organised in accordance with the *Safeguarding Children Parish Handbook for the Western Province* (2017) which can be found at [www.clonfertdiocese.ie](http://www.clonfertdiocese.ie)

This Handbook is a subset of the extensive guidance produced by the National Board for Safeguarding Children in the Catholic Church in Ireland (NBSCCCI). It should be read in conjunction with the NBSCCCI's *Safeguarding Children Policy and Standards for the Catholic Church in Ireland* and its guidance documents, the most up to date version of which will be available at [www.safeguarding.ie](http://www.safeguarding.ie)

We regularly offer training and in-service to all personnel involved with children within the church. Our aim throughout is to make our churches and church related activities the safest possible place for children.

## As you enrol your child, please make sure:

- That you have familiarised yourself with our policy and procedures which can be found at [www.clonfertdiocese.ie](http://www.clonfertdiocese.ie)
- That you have completed the Joint Consent Form (SG04).
- That you and your child have talked through our *Code of Good Behaviour for Children and Young People* along with the *Feeling Happy! Feeling Sad!* section of this leaflet.
- That you have reviewed our Anti-bullying Policy and Complaints Procedure in *Safeguarding Children Parish Handbook for the Western Province* (2017) at [www.clonfertdiocese.ie](http://www.clonfertdiocese.ie)

## For Your Child

We are happy and thankful to you for choosing to become involved in your Parish. To help you do your job as well as you can, you should always follow our

### Code of Behaviour for Children and Young People:

- Be nice to others and treat everyone with respect and kindness because we are all God's Children.
  - Never hurt anybody by what you say or do.
  - Treat property with respect.
  - Act as a good role model.
  - Do not consume alcohol, tobacco or illegal drugs.
  - Do not bring any physical item into the Church activity that may cause offence or harm to others.
  - Make your own arrangements with your Parents/Guardians to get to and from the Church safely.
  - Let someone know if you cannot attend.
  - Attend activities on time.
  - Sign in and out.
  - Turn off/silence your mobile phone.
  - Do not use bad language.
  - Never bully anyone or send them threatening messages.
  - Tell someone you trust if you feel uncomfortable with any situation or individual – do not keep it to yourself.
  - If you have any worries about your role, please speak to your Parents/Guardians who will contact the Priest/Co-ordinator to discuss the matter.
- God bless you in your new role.

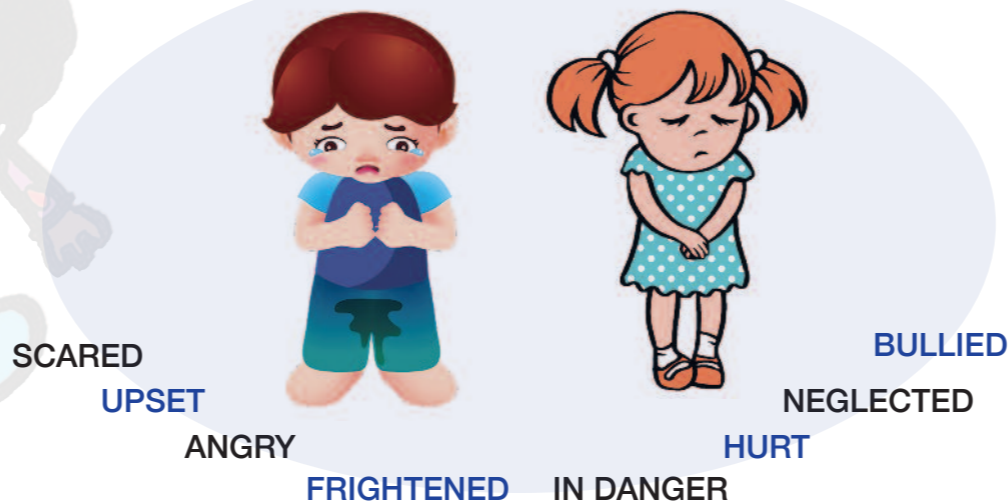
## Feeling Happy! Feeling Sad!

Sometimes someone acts in a way that makes us sad, scared, afraid, uncomfortable and unsure. If this happens to us we need to tell a grown up. It's a grown-ups job to make sure we are happy and safe.

### HAPPY is when you feel .....



### SAD is when you feel .....



## when someone hurts you.....

- tell someone
- know it is not your fault
- say no

One of these people maybe able to help .....

