

Safeguarding Children: Policy and Standards for the Catholic Church in Ireland 2016

Scope of the Policy

This policy applies to all Church bodies and is addressed to all Church personnel who are required to comply with it. Full understanding of and adherence to this policy should lead to a deepening in the understanding of, and respect for, the rights of children and young people to participate as people of faith in the life of the Church.

The care and protection of children involved in Church activities is the responsibility of the whole Church, and is a requirement that applies regardless of the nature of the Church activities in which children are involved. Everyone who participates in the life of the Church has a role to play in creating an environment in which children can develop and be safe.

Putting the Policy into Action

This Church body will implement this policy by ensuring that all our ministry and activities comply with applicable indicators of the seven safeguarding standards.

1. Creating and Maintaining Safe Environments.
2. Procedures for Responding to Child Protection Suspicions, Concerns, Knowledge or Allegations.
3. Care and Support for the Complainant.
4. Care and Management of the Respondent.
5. Training and Support for Keeping Children Safe.
6. Communicating the Church's Safeguarding Message.
7. Quality Assuring Compliance with the Standards.

Commitment by the Church Authority

On behalf of this Church body, as part of the Catholic Church in Ireland, I commit to safeguarding children by agreeing to follow this Child Safeguarding Policy.

I will abide by and uphold the seven standards and the applicable indicators in our entire ministry and contacts with children.

Dr. Cergel Fine Caha (Abbes)

Church Authority Signature

Date *May 4th, 2016*

On Behalf of *The Poor Clare Community, Dunsinko, Co. Kerry*