

# SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN

## Information for Young People

Diocese  
of Ferns

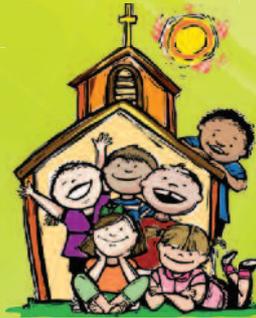


We believe that every child is precious and has a right to be kept safe from harm or abuse. Every adult in the church has to help keep children safe by following the Diocesan Policy for Safeguarding Children.

### What does Child Abuse mean?

Most children grow up being loved, cared for and safe, but some need to be protected from abuse. Abuse is bad treatment by adults or other children which harms a child and can be when a child:

- ◆ Is told hurtful things that make them feel scared, unloved and unwanted.
- ◆ Is physically hurt, for example hitting, shaking, throwing, burning or scalding.
- ◆ Is made to do, or watch, something sexual they don't want to.
- ◆ Is not looked after properly, does not have enough food or clothes or is left alone.
- ◆ Is bullied, for example being called names, being hit or pushed, having rumours spread about them or being threatened by someone online.



**You have a right  
to be safe in the  
Catholic Church**

### What does the policy say?

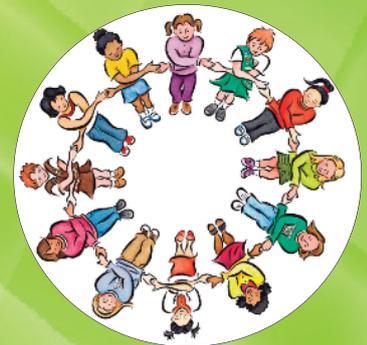
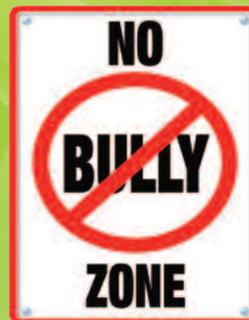
*The policy says that adults should....*

- ◆ Treat children with respect.
- ◆ Never shout at children.
- ◆ Never hurt children.
- ◆ Always keep children safe from adults who could hurt or abuse them.
- ◆ Make sure children treat each other with respect.

### What you should do.

It is important that children are safe from anyone who tries to harm them, this might be a family member or relative, a neighbour, an online friend, someone who looks after them, like a teacher, youth leader, someone who works in the Church, or a stranger.

*If you are scared or worried tell someone.*



**If you have a child safeguarding concern or wish to raise a matter from the past you may contact any of the following:**

Marian Stack

Designated Liaison Person

Office: 053 9122177

Mobile: 085 1055992

Colette O'Doherty

Safeguarding Coordinator/  
Support Person

Office: 053 9174972

Mobile: 087 9474513

Civil Authorities

Enniscorthy

Gorey

New Ross

Wexford

CHILD SEX ABUSE FREE-PHONE

Gardaí: 053 9242580

Gardaí: 053 9430690

Gardaí: 051 426030

Gardaí: 053 9165200

Tusla: 053 9233465

Tusla: 053 9430100

Tusla: 053 9123522 Ext. 201

Tusla: 053 9123522 Ext. 201

1800 555 222