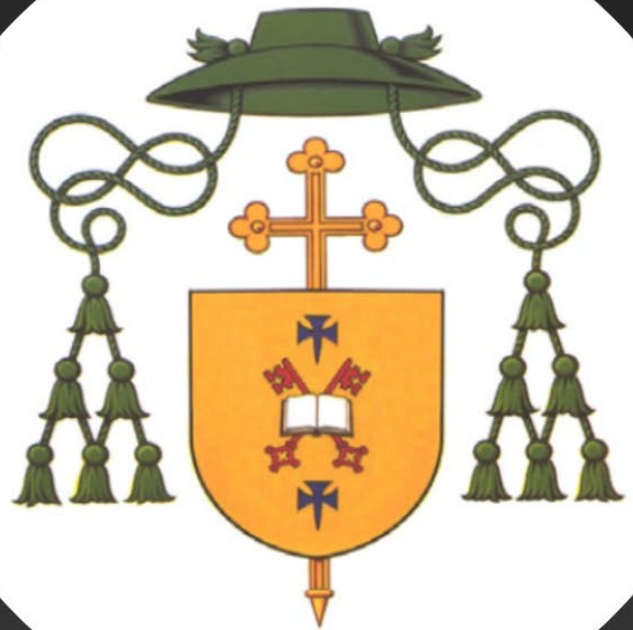


Diocese of Dromore



**Safeguarding Information
Session Booklet**

Diocesan Prayer for Safeguarding

Different Gifts – One Spirit

Almighty God, we thank you for having blessed us with spiritual gifts.

We thank you for bringing us together in this place,

each with his or her unique set of gifts,

to serve each other.

None of us can do it without the others.

But together, with your help, we can do anything.

Help each of us to do our part. Amen.

What is Safeguarding?

the term **safeguarding** is intended to be used in its widest sense, encompassing the full range of promotion, prevention and protection activity.

Effective safeguarding activity will:

Promote the welfare for the child and young person;

Prevent harm occurring through early identification of risk and appropriate, timely intervention;

Protect children and young people from harm when this is required.

Safeguarding Children Policy Statement for the Catholic Church In Ireland

The Gospel teaches the importance of ensuring that the church community is a warm, welcoming and safe place for children.

‘Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of God belongs to such as these. Truly I tell you, anyone who will not receive the kingdom of God like a little child will never enter it.’ (Mark 10:14-15)

Children are gifts from God, to be cherished and recognised for the joyful contribution they bring as valued members of the Church. Our challenge is to follow the example of Jesus in cherishing children. Safeguarding is key to this important task and should be seen not as a burden but as an opportunity to embrace and encourage children’s ministry, following the example of Christ.

Dromore Diocese pledges to safeguard children from harm and to support them in their development as valued and integral members of the Catholic Church in Ireland. The Church’s ministry will be inclusive and will uphold the rights of children. Consistent with Gospel values, and with civil and criminal law, those who minister will do so with dignity and integrity, honouring their calling to ensure that children are welcomed, cherished and protected, following the example set by Jesus.

This Safeguarding Children Policy will be honoured and complied with by all ordained clerics, by vowed female and male religious, and by all lay staff and volunteers in the Catholic Church in Ireland.

The National Board for Safeguarding Children in the Catholic Church in Ireland

The NBSCCCI is a company limited by guarantee funded by the following two bodies:

- Irish Catholic Bishops' Conference
- Association of Missionaries and Religious in Ireland (AMRI)

What does the NBSCCCI do?

- It offers advice and support on all aspects of child safeguarding and case management within the Catholic Church in Ireland
- It assists with the development of policy, procedures and practice on all aspects of child safeguarding within the Catholic Church in Ireland
- It monitors child safeguarding practice of constituent members within the Catholic Church in Ireland

There are three core standards to the Church's Safeguarding Children Policy (the three standards are linked, and no standard is more important than another).

- Leadership, Governance and Accountability
- Nurturing a Culture of Safeguarding
- Responding Pastorally and Reporting According to Civil and Canon Law



Our role as volunteers within the Church setting..

Recognising

Responding

Recording

Reporting



Child Abuse Categories



Neglect

Emotional Abuse

Physical Abuse

Sexual Abuse



Role of the Designated Liaison Person.

The DLP has a number of roles in relation to child safeguarding which include the following:

- Hearing child safeguarding concerns;
- Passing on child safeguarding concerns to the statutory authorities;
- Where applicable passing on child safeguarding concerns to the Church authority
- Where applicable passing on child safeguarding concerns to the NBSCCCI; • Managing cases and all associated documents;
- After the investigation by the statutory authorities has concluded and if the allegation relates to a cleric or religious the DLP is responsible for managing the Church inquiry process with the Church authority.

If someone tells you that they have been abused, as soon as possible direct them to the DLP, and inform the DLP of the action you have taken and any information you have. The person making the allegation may tell you directly before you have been able to direct them to the DLP and if this happens there are a few things you should do.

Designated Liaison Person(DLP)
Mr Stephen Sherry
07301246329
safeguardingdirector@dromorediocese.org

If you are concerned that a child or young person you know is at risk, or you wish to raise a matter from the past, you are invited to contact any of the following:

Dromore Designated Person: Stephen Sherry 07301246329

NSPCC Helpline – 0808 800 5000

N.I. Childline – 0800 1111

Southern Health and Social Care Trust

Gateway team- 028 3756 7100

0800 783 7745

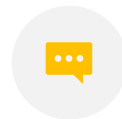
Responding to a Disclosure: DON'Ts



MAKE JUDGEMENTS
ABOUT THE ALLEGED
ABUSER



PROMISE TO KEEP
SECRETS



TELL THEM STORIES
ABOUT OTHER PEOPLE



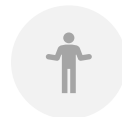
TELL THEM THAT
EVERYTHING WILL BE
FIXED STRAIGHT AWAY



PRESS FOR DETAILS,
EXCEPT TO CLARIFY



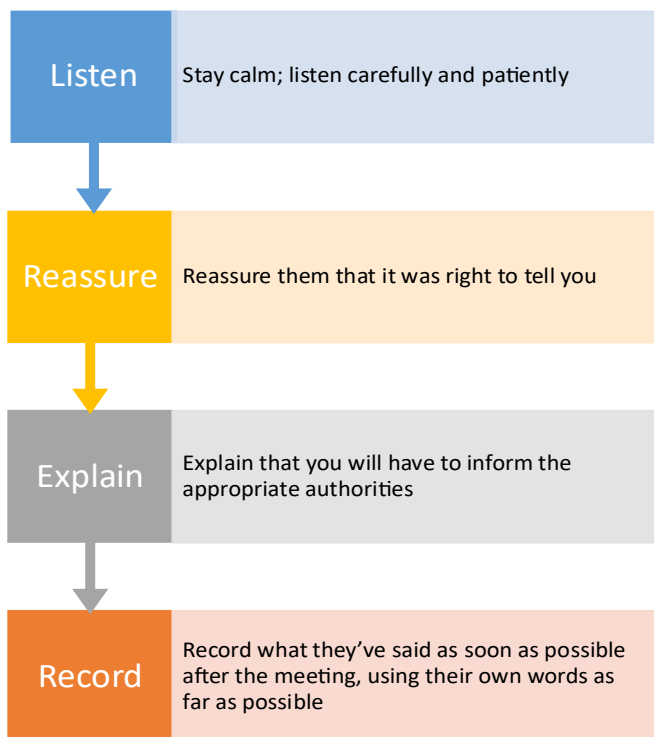
FILL IN WORDS OR
FINISH SENTENCES



CONVEY YOUR ANGER,
SHOCK OR
EMBARRASSMENT, OR
GIVE YOUR OPINION



Responding to a Disclosure: DOs



Recording DON'Ts



ONLY RECORD WHAT
YOU HAVE HEARD AND
THE WAY YOU HEARD IT



DO NOT ASK
QUESTIONS EXCEPT TO
CLARIFY



DO NOT TRY AND
ORDER WHAT YOU
HAVE HEARD



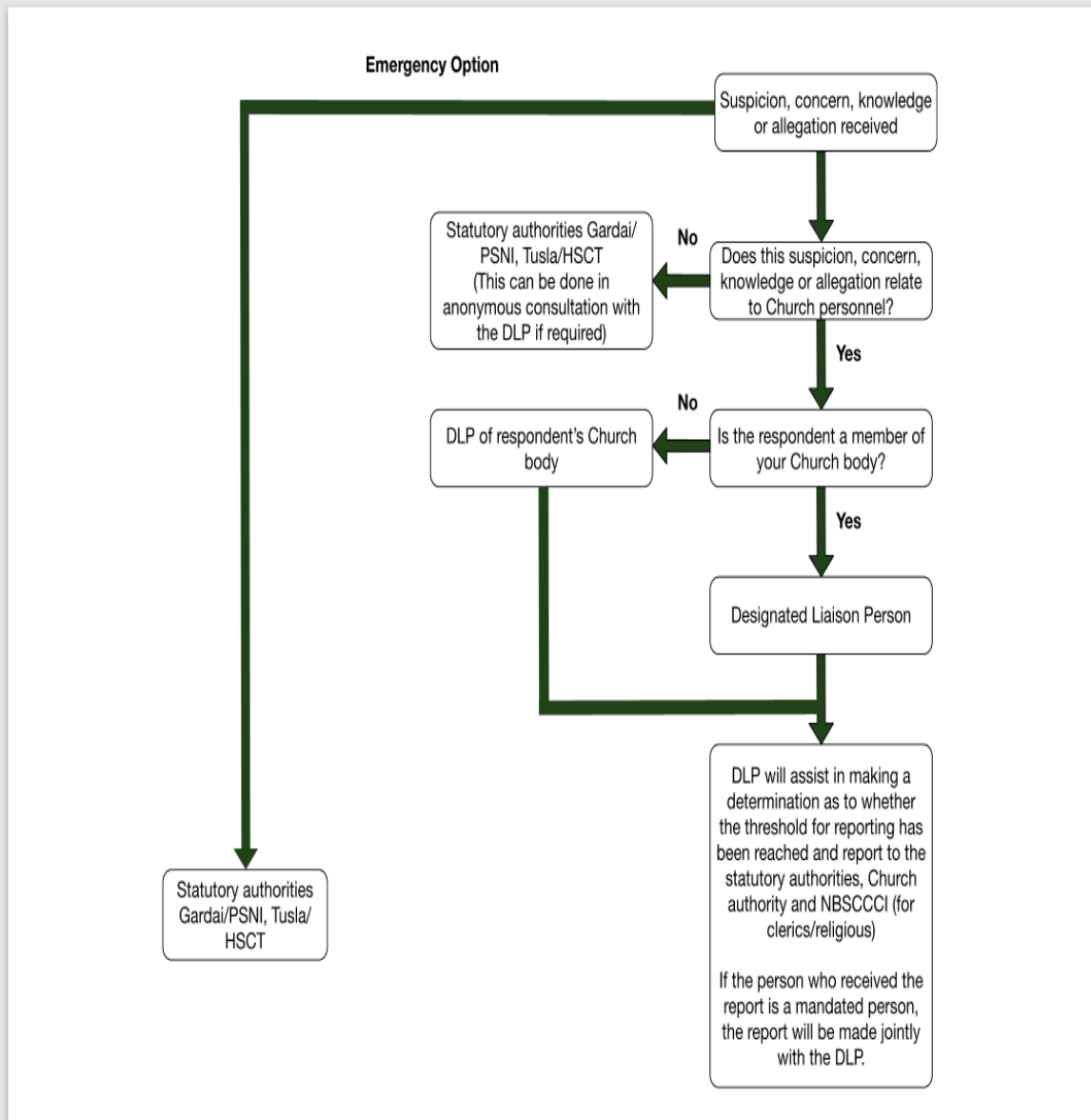
DO NOT CHANGE THE
LANGUAGE TO SUIT
WHAT YOU DEEM TO BE
APPROPRIATE



IF YOU ARE IN ANY
DOUBT, SEEK ADVICE
FROM THE DLP; THERE
IS ALWAYS SOMEONE
WHO CAN HELP



Reporting

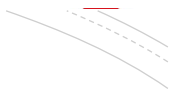


Practicalities

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Recruitment and Training

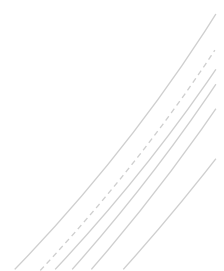
- The first step is to ensure that anyone employed or volunteering to work with children in the Church is suitable.
- Checklist for selection and recruitment:
 - Declaration form.
 - Vetting if required.
 - Ongoing training in safeguarding.
- For more information go to <https://www.safeguarding.ie>

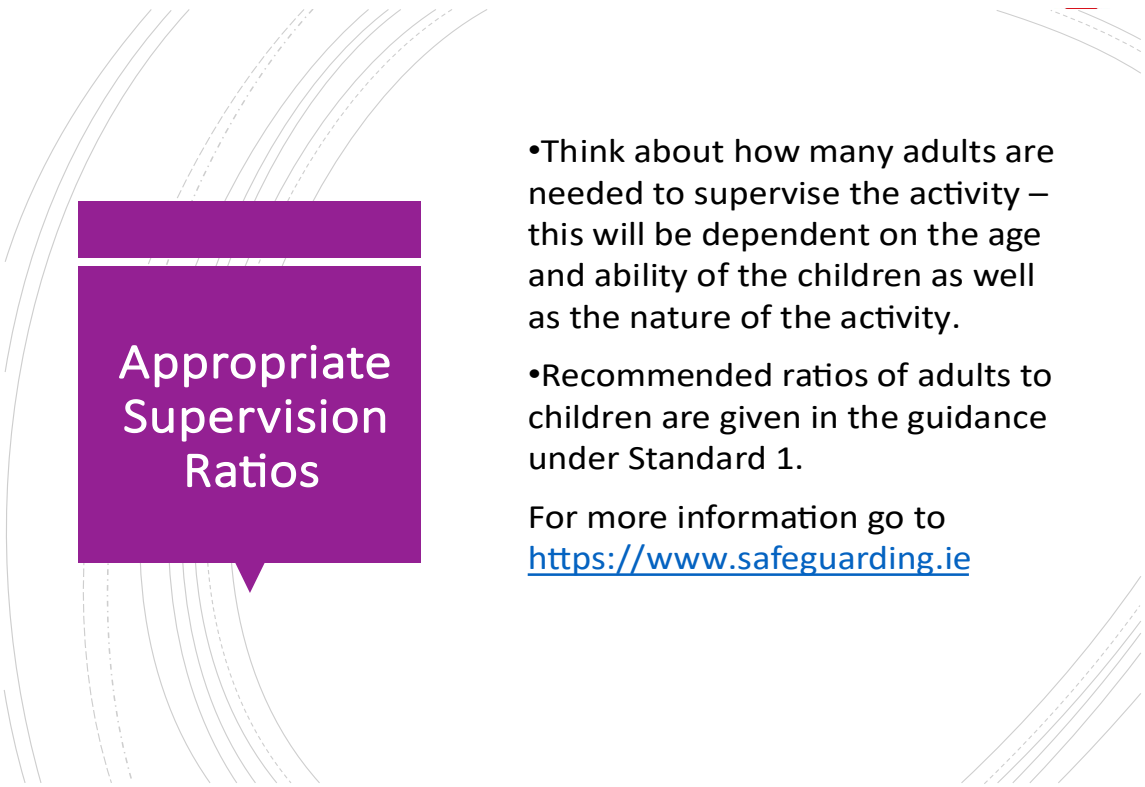


Record Keeping

- Child's consent.
- Parental/guardian consent.
- Medical information.
- Contact information for parents/guardians.
- Attendance records.
- How long should these be stored for and where?

For more information go to
<https://www.safeguarding.ie>





Appropriate Supervision Ratios

- Think about how many adults are needed to supervise the activity – this will be dependent on the age and ability of the children as well as the nature of the activity.

- Recommended ratios of adults to children are given in the guidance under Standard 1.

For more information go to <https://www.safeguarding.ie>

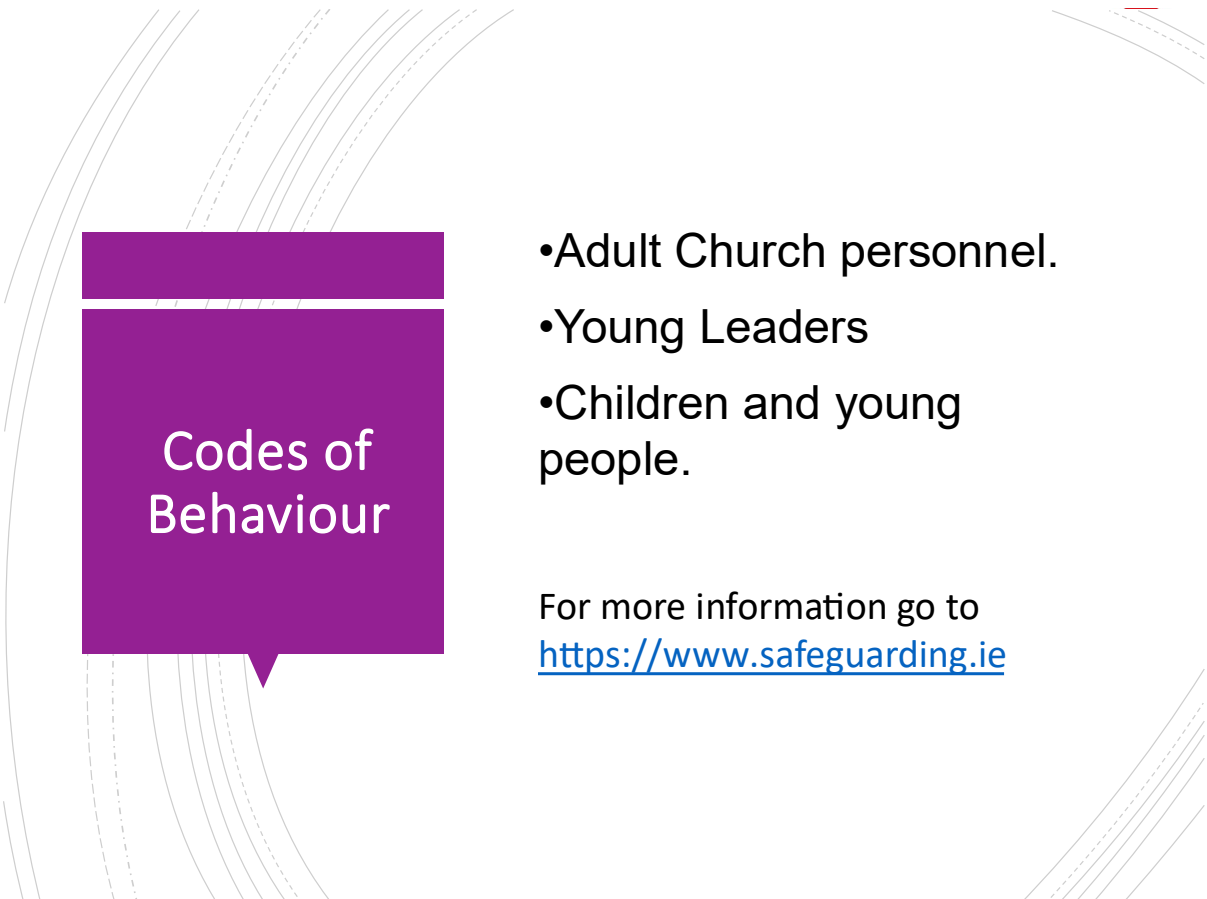
In planning a trip or activity, it is critically important to consider how many adults are needed to supervise children in a safe manner. It is recommended that a certain number of adults be available to supervise a certain number of children; however, this is also dependent on whether the children have specific needs or requirements, and on the duration of the activity.

At a minimum, two adults are required for each activity.

In addition, the minimum following ratios should be applied, depending on the number of children:

- zero to one year = one member of staff to three children
- one to two years = one member of staff to five children
- two to three years = one member of staff to six children
- three to six years = one member of staff to eight children
- seven to twelve years = one member of staff to eight children
- thirteen to eighteen years = one member of staff to ten children

If it is an overnight activity, additional staff should be considered. If the group is mixed, a gender balance should be maintained.

The background features several sets of thin, curved lines in grey and purple, creating a sense of movement and depth. A small red horizontal line is visible in the upper right corner.

Codes of Behaviour

- Adult Church personnel.
- Young Leaders
- Children and young people.

For more information go to
<https://www.safeguarding.ie>

