

Kilmore Diocese

Safeguarding Children Code of Behaviour for Adults

All church personnel must comply with the following -

1. Always treat children, young people and other adults equally, with courtesy, respect and dignity.
2. Develop a culture of openness, honesty and safety.
3. Be a model of positive and appropriate behaviour to children, young people and other adults.
4. Engage with young people in an open and transparent manner and take care not to show favouritism.
5. Develop a culture where children and young people have permission to tell and talk about any concerns or worries they may have.
6. Respect children and young people's boundaries and support them to develop their own sense and understanding of their rights.
7. Be aware of diocesan policy on safeguarding and of your own responsibility to safeguard children and young people.
8. Challenge and report abusive and potentially abusive behaviour.
9. Inappropriate use of videos, dvds, cameras, land lines, mobile phones and picture mobile phones will not be allowed during church activities. Mobile phones will be kept on silent or turned off during church activities. Procedures for the use of technology e.g. internet, texting, emailing, webcam, photography and CCTV must be followed.
10. Never consume alcohol, smoke or take non-prescriptive drugs in the presence of children or young people or while having responsibility for them.
11. Never undertake any task of a personal nature with or for children or young people except in cases of medical necessity when their welfare depends on it.
12. Never use bad language or offensive comments.
13. Never engage in rough play or infringe on personal boundaries whereby physical integrity is compromised.
14. Refrain from inappropriate use or damage to property and treat property with respect.
15. This code of conduct will be reviewed periodically.

'Church personnel' - is anyone working on behalf of the church, either in a voluntary or paid position.