

St Catherine Pontypridd

Policy in connection with our work with YOUTH (children and young people)

Polisi mewn cysylltiad â'n gwaith gyda phlant a phobl ifanc

We are a SAFE FROM HARM PARISH, and we operate within: Children Act 1989; All Wales Child Protection Procedures; Safe from Harm Document; (Summary of principles in Church in Wales Code of Good Practice Page 2); Church in Wales Code of Good Practice 2002; The Diocese of Llandaff

OUR OBLIGATIONS TO YOUTH

As Jesus behaved towards children in his time, we too will respect youth as persons in their own right and give them especial protection because of their vulnerability.

We will constantly pray for our work with youth, with the highest standard of care.

We will act responsibly and with integrity towards youth by not taking advantage of those in our care.

We will not exploit our relationship of trust for the purposes of self-gratification.

PARISH GUIDELINES FOR GOOD PRACTICE

We will treat all allegations of abuse or risk of abuse (physical, sexual, emotional or neglect) seriously.

As a rule, there will always be more than one adult with one or more youth whether on or off site.

However, when "1 to 1 situations" are unavoidable, the leader will ensure that another adult is aware of the meeting.

We will observe the following ratios of adults to children:

<u>0-2 years</u>	<i>1 adult to every 3 children</i>	<u>2-3 years</u>	<i>1 adult to every 4 children</i>
<u>3-7 years</u>	<i>1 adult to every 8 children</i>	<u>7-11 years</u>	<i>1 adult to every 10 children</i>
<u>over 11 years</u>	<i>1 adult to every 15 young people</i>		

When transporting one or more youth in a car or minibus we will try and arrange to have a second adult in the vehicle or when this is not possible, for adults in different vehicles to travel in convoy and keep in contact via mobile phones.

We will not arrange meetings with youth off church premises except in the presence/ agreement of a parent or other adult.

We will not smack/ shake anyone in our care; and avoid touching youth in an inappropriate manner.

Casual or occasional visitors will not have access to a child or group activities without an adult who is authorized as being responsible for the child or group.

ADMINISTRATION AND BUILDINGS

All persons working directly with youth will complete a Disclosure & Barring Service and the diocese's CCP1 form. They will have been approved through the Parish's Child Protection Procedure.

We will ensure adequate insurance for both on and off site activities.

When transporting youth in vehicles we will ensure that the vehicle is adequately insured and that the parish is adhering to current DVLC mini bus regulations.

The names of youth, addresses and telephone numbers will be recorded and kept in a safe place. Parental consent forms will be completed for regular meetings and for outings; a copy of the details will be kept in 'the parish office' when outings take place.

Buildings will be checked for safety by adult leaders and fire drill procedures will be practiced.

First Aid equipment is available in every church building

All accidents need to be reported to the Vicar, noted and passed to him for the accident/incident file

Please note the nearest public telephone and ensure that your mobile phone works

If there is an incident that is causing concern, speak first to the diocesan child protection officer or Rhondda Cynon Taff's Child Protection Team.

Diocesan Safeguarding Officer: Mrs Elaine Cloke Tel: 07787 244037

Child Protection Team Rhondda Cynon Taff: Tel: 01443 431513 or 01443 849944

Vicar: Peter Lewis, the Vicarage, Gelliwastad Grove, Pontypridd CF37 2BS 01443402021

Parish Safeguarding Officer: Kerri Allen 07870558202

Police: 101 or 999 (emergency) Childline: 0800111 NSPCC Child Protection Helpline: 0808 800 5000