

ADULT SAFEGUARDING POLICY

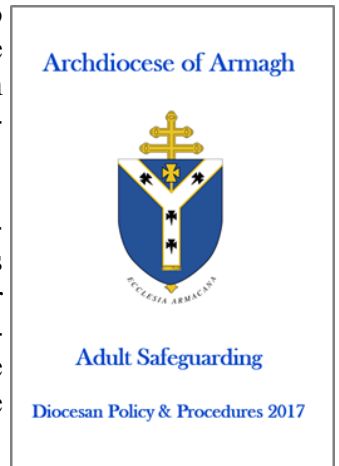
The updated Diocesan Adult Safeguarding Policy has been distributed to all Parishes.

The Policy aims to

- outline the commitment to adult safeguarding of the Archdiocese;
- ensure that safeguarding arrangements for adults who are at risk of harm or in need of protection are in place;
- ensure that all church personnel working within the Archdiocese understand and commit to the policy, as appropriate to their ministries.

This Policy can also be accessed on the Safeguarding section of the Diocesan Website.

If you have any queries relating to this policy document, or would like an additional copy, please make contact with the Safeguarding Office.



SAFE CHURCH INITIATIVE

In conjunction with Women's Aid and ONUS, the Catholic and Church of Ireland Cathedral parishes in Armagh came together for training in the Safe Church Initiative. Clergy, as well as volunteer staff attended the training.

We have pledged to play our part in raising awareness about domestic violence and abuse and in supporting anyone affected to confidentially access information. We hope to draw more attention to this initiative as we continue our preparations for the World Meeting of Families this August.

Organisations like Women's Aid alert us to the fact that at least 14% of all crime reported to the police last year was related to domestic violence with police responding to

one incident every 18 minutes.



Both Cathedrals are now designated as Safe Churches.

A word of thanks to all those involved, in particular Rebekah Nelson & Anne McAllister who provided the training, and Alison Beattie who secured funding from the Policing and Community Safety Partnership on behalf of the two Churches.

The Safe Church Award is an initiative of Onus (NI), a social enterprise established by Women's Aid which offers a wide range of specialist services aimed at anyone

affected by domestic violence or abuse. For more information on Onus and the Safe Church Initiative please visit: www.onustraining.co.uk

NBSCCCI NEWSLETTER

The May - December 2017 editions of the National Board Newsletter can be accessed by visiting:

<http://www.armagharchdiocese.org/safeguarding-updates-and-newsletters/>

All previous editions are accessible there also.

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SAFEGUARDING TRAINING UPDATE

The National Board Full Day Training cycle has now come to an end. This mandatory training was given to all Diocesan Clergy, Parish Safeguarding Representatives and Diocesan Youth Leaders.

The Safeguarding Facilitators have received updated safeguarding training for their role from Eleanor Kelly, and are now ready to begin re-training parish volunteers with the Parish Information and Adult Safeguarding Awareness Sessions within the Archdiocese.

The planning of these Sessions has already begun within the Safeguarding Office. Parish Priests/Administrators and Parish Safeguarding Representatives will soon be contacted to ascertain who is due this training in their parish.

**CYBER BULLYING
E-BOOK AVAILABLE**

“Beat The CyberBully” Tips for Parents & Educators e-Book is available by following the link below.

Simply enter your name and email address and this free e-Book will be emailed to you directly for download.

<http://waynedenner.com/ebook/>



If you have any ideas for inclusion in future editions, please contact the Safeguarding Office!



ADULT SAFEGUARDING TRAINING PROGRAMME



In order to fulfil our obligation regarding Adult Safeguarding, the 5 Northern Dioceses of Armagh, Clogher, Dromore, Derry and Kilmore commissioned Volunteer Now Ltd. to develop a programme of training for the Catholic Church. Volunteer Now is a registered charity and promotes standards of good practice in safeguarding all vulnerable groups through their Duty to Care Project with support from the Department of Health.

Three individuals, Paula Cunningham (Derry), Seamus Gunn (Clogher), and Eleanor Kelly (Armagh) have been accredited as trainers by Volunteer Now for the Keeping Adults Safe Programme. They will deliver the training throughout the 5 Northern Dioceses. This training will be aimed at those who have direct, unsupervised and regular contact with adults. For example, Diocesan Clergy, Eucharistic Ministers to the Housebound, Members of SPRED, Lourdes Pilgrimage Volunteers, etc.

The training programme has begun and over the coming months the Armagh Training Co-ordinator, Eleanor Kelly, will be in contact Parish Priests and Safeguarding Representatives to arrange training.

PARISH SAFEGUARDING AUDIT DATA PROTECTION

The annual Parish Safeguarding Self-Audit for 2017 has now been completed.

The Director of Safeguarding will present a report on audit responses at the next Diocesan Safeguarding Committee meeting.

The General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) comes into effect on 25th May 2018 and replaces the Data Protection Act in NI and the EU Data Protection Directive in the ROI. The implementation will require changes in the way we collect, use and transfer personal data. When guidance has been developed for Dioceses and Parishes in respect of their Safeguarding practice, this will be shared with all Clergy and Parish Representatives.

DIOCESAN WEBSITE

The Safeguarding section of the Diocesan Website has been updated. You can access this section directly at the following web address:

www.armagharchdiocese.org/safeguarding/