



## Assessment of Harm for Parish of Emlaghfad, Ballymote

This assessment considers the potential for harm as defined by the Children Firsts Act to come to children whilst they are in Holy Trinity, Ballisodare care. This assessment must be done before the Child Safeguarding Statement (Section 11 (1b) Children First Act 2015) is published locally. In accordance with the requirements of *Section 11 (1) of the Children First Act 2015* the risk is of abuse and is not general health and safety risk. “Harm” in this context means, (a) assault, ill-treatment or neglect of the child in a manner that seriously affects or is likely to seriously affect the child’s health, development or welfare, or (b) sexual abuse of the child, whether caused by a single act, omission or circumstance or a series or combination of acts, omissions or circumstances, or otherwise.

Potential risk of harm to children as defined in the Children First act in 2015	Likelihood of harm happening L-M-H	Required Policy, Guidance and Procedure document	Responsibility Parish/Club/Diocese	Further action required ...
Harm caused by clergy to child	Low	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Safeguarding Trust</li> <li>▪ Child Safeguarding Training</li> <li>▪ Code of Conduct</li> <li>▪ Recruitment</li> </ul>	Parish/Diocese	None, clergy never alone with children
Harm Caused by a worker to a child	Low	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Safeguarding Trust</li> <li>▪ Child Safeguarding Training</li> <li>▪ Code of Conduct</li> <li>▪ Recruitment</li> </ul>	Parish	No paid workers
Harm caused by a volunteer to child	Low	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Safeguarding Trust</li> <li>▪ Child Safeguarding Training</li> <li>▪ Code of Conduct</li> <li>▪ Recruitment</li> </ul>	Parish	None, volunteers are always present in appropriate numbers
Harm caused by a visitor to child	Low	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Safeguarding Trust</li> <li>▪ Child Safeguarding Training</li> <li>▪ Code of Conduct</li> </ul>	Parish	Planning and procedures would not allow this to happen. Visitors would not come into contact with any other children than their own.
Harm caused by a child to another child	Low	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Safeguarding Trust</li> <li>▪ Child Safeguarding Training</li> <li>▪ Code of Conduct</li> </ul>	Parish	No action required. Supervision levels maintained at all times.



Potential risk of harm to children as defined in the Children First act in 2015	Likelihood of harm happening L-M-H	Required Policy, Guidance and Procedure document	Responsibility Parish/Club/Diocese	Further action required ...
No communication of Child Safeguarding Statement or Code of Behaviour to members or visitors	Low	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Child Safeguarding Statement – display</li> <li>Code of Behaviour - distribute via SGT policy</li> </ul>	Parish	None, statements and policies are available to all. Registration documentation always completed.
Risk of harm to a child during travelling and away trips/overnights	Low	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Travel/Away trip guidance</li> <li>Child Safeguarding Training</li> <li>Safeguarding Trust</li> </ul>	Parish/Diocese	None, procedures on travelling in place. No overnight trips taken
Lack of child protection training/guidance	Low	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Safeguarding Trust</li> <li>Recruitment</li> <li>Safeguarding Training</li> </ul>	Parish	Every training opportunity is taken. Everyone updates at least every three years, annually for policies etc.
Supervision/ratio issues including gender balance among leaders	Low	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Safeguarding Trust</li> <li>Safeguarding Training</li> </ul>	Parish	Supervision ratios are always maintained. Gender balance not always kept due to the need for volunteers that overrides this.
<b>SOCIAL MEDIA AND OTHER MEDIA</b>				
Access to and inappropriate use of social media and communications by under 18's	Low	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Communications policy</li> <li>Code of conduct</li> <li>Safeguarding Trust</li> </ul>	Parish	No communication occurs other than notifications on website or via Whatsapp and to parents only
Risk to under 18's by others inappropriate use of social media and communications with under 18's	Low	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Communications policy</li> <li>Code of conduct.</li> <li>Safeguarding Trust</li> </ul>	Parish	Not used with under 18s



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Unauthorised photography & recording activities	Medium	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Photography and Use of Image</li> <li>Safeguarding Trust</li> </ul>	Parish	None, approval for this is sort from parents. Risk comes from others but announcements are made at events.
<b>REPORTING PROCEDURES</b>				
Lack of knowledge of organisational and statutory reporting procedures	Low	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Reporting procedures in SGT policy</li> <li>Code of Conduct /Behaviour</li> </ul>	Parish	N/A
No Panel Appointed	Low	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Reporting procedures/policy</li> <li>Safeguarding Trust</li> <li>Child Safeguarding Training</li> </ul>	Parish	N/A
Concerns of abuse or harm not reported	Low	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Reporting procedures/policy</li> <li>Child Safeguarding Training</li> <li>Safeguarding Trust</li> </ul>	Parish Panel	N/A
Not clear who child/YP should talk to or report to	Medium	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Post the names of Parish Panels and Mandated Person</li> </ul>	Parish Panel	Panel photos and contact details are displayed in all locations.
<b>COMPLAINTS &amp; DISCIPLINE</b>				
Lack of awareness of a Complaints & Disciplinary policy	Low	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Complaints &amp; Disciplinary procedure/policy</li> <li>Safeguarding Trust</li> </ul>	Parish Panel	Policies are available on website or on request.
Difficulty in raising an issue by child & or parent Reason: Covered above	Low	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Complaints &amp; Disciplinary procedure/policy</li> <li>Communications procedure</li> </ul>	Parish Panel	As above
Complaints not being dealt with seriously	Low	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Complaints &amp; Disciplinary procedure/policy</li> </ul>	Parish Panel	As above



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<b>MANAGING RISK OF HARM IN SPECIFIC LOCATIONS</b>				
Unauthorised access to designated children’s play & practice areas and to changing rooms, showers, toilets etc.	Low	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Supervision policy</li> <li>▪ Safeguarding Trust</li> <li>▪ Code of Conduct</li> </ul>	Parish	None
Unauthorised exit from children’s areas	Low	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Supervision policy</li> <li>▪ Safeguarding Trust re ratios</li> </ul>	Parish	None, site secure
Photography, filming or recording in prohibited areas	Low	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Photography policy and use of devices in private zones</li> <li>▪ Safeguarding Trust</li> </ul>	Parish	None, notification always given
Missing or found child on site	Low	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Safeguarding Trust</li> </ul>	Parish	None
Children sharing facilities with adults e.g. dressing room, showers etc.	Low	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Safeguarding Trust</li> <li>▪ Code of Conduct</li> </ul>	Parish	None
Lack of awareness of ‘risk of harm’ with members and visitors	Low	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Child Safeguarding Statement</li> <li>▪ SGT Training policy</li> </ul>	Parish	None

Explanation of terms used:

- **Potential risk of harm to children** – these are identified risks of harm to children whilst accessing activities in the Diocese/Parish/Club
- **Likelihood of harm happening** – the likelihood of the risk occurring in the Diocese/Parish/Club measured by you as Low/Medium or High.
- **Required Policy, Guidance and Procedure document** – indication of the policy and associated procedures required to alleviate the risk.
- **Responsibility** – provider should indicate where the responsibility for alleviating the risk lies.
- **Further action...** - indicates further action that might be necessary to alleviate any on-going risk.



Church of Ireland Safeguarding Board

This Assessment of Harm document has been discussed and completed by Canon Andrew Ison.

Signed:

Name: Andrew Ison

Role: Rector

Date: 17/04/2023

Signed:

Name: Wendy Lyons

Role: Parish Panel

Date: 17/04/2023