



CHILD SAFEGUARDING STATEMENT

Parishes of Kildare and Newbridge Unions

Kildare and Newbridge Unions provide religious, educational and recreational activities and services to children under 18 years of age through a range of local services.

Kildare and Newbridge Unions are committed to safeguarding children by working under the guidance of our national safeguarding policy Safeguarding Trust and its associated procedures.

We acknowledge our duty of care to safeguard and promote the welfare of children and we are committed to ensuring safeguarding practice reflects statutory responsibilities, government guidance and complies with best practice.

Our clergy, volunteers and staff are committed to creating a safe environment for children and young people to grow and develop. The Safeguarding Trust policy recognises that the welfare and interests of children are paramount in all circumstances. It aims to ensure that regardless of age, ability or disability, race, religion or belief, sex or sexual orientation or socio-economic background, all children have a positive and enjoyable experience in a safe and child centred environment and are protected from abuse whilst participating in church related activities.

Kildare and Newbridge Unions under Safeguarding Trust will conduct a specific written risk assessment of any potential for harm to a child through their involvement in Church activities. The written risk assessment will indicate the areas of potential harm, the likelihood of harm occurring, and list the required policy, guidance, process and practice required to alleviate the risks.

- This Child Safeguarding Statement has been developed in line with requirements under:
- Children First Act 2015
- Protection for Persons Reporting Child Abuse Act 1998
- Children First: National Guidance 2017
- Tusla's Child Safeguarding: A Guide for Policy, Procedure and Practice.



Church of Ireland Safeguarding Board

The Mandated/Relevant Person for *Kildare and Newbridge Unions*
is the Very Revd Isobel Jackson

In addition to this service/activity risk assessment, the above policies and procedures named, the following procedures are in place throughout the Church of Ireland as part of its safeguarding policies and procedures:

- Procedures for the safe recruitment of volunteers or employees to work with children in our services.
- Procedures for provision of and access to child safeguarding training, including the identification and reporting of harm.
- Procedures for reporting child protection and welfare concerns to Tusla and An Garda Síochána.
- Procedures for maintaining a list of persons in each diocese who are mandated persons.
- Procedure for appointing a relevant person for this child safeguarding statement.
- The full Church of Ireland Child Safeguarding Policy is available on the Church of Ireland

The full Church of Ireland Safeguarding Policy is available on the Church of Ireland website at <https://safeguarding.ireland.anglican.org/>

Kildare and Newbridge Unions recognise that implementation is an on-going process – we are committed to the implementation of this Child Safeguarding Statement and the procedures that support our intention to keep children safe from harm and the risk of harm.

The Child Safeguarding Statement will be reviewed no later than September 2024, or as soon as practicable after there has been a material change in any matter to which the statement refers.

The Relevant Person for this Child Safeguarding Statement is:

The Very Revd. Isobel Jackson

Telephone 045 431352

This Child Safeguarding Statement will be reviewed on:

September 2024