

## **WHAT IS ABUSE?**

### **Sexual**

Sexual abuse occurs when an adult uses a child for his/her own sexual gratification.

It is always wrong.

### **Physical**

Physical abuse is anything that causes deliberate physical harm to a child.

### **Emotional**

Emotional abuse is caused by words and actions which make a child feel unloved, inadequate, creating low self-esteem and fear.

### **Neglect**

Neglect is a form of abuse over a sustained period of time where the child is deprived of food, warmth and good hygiene.

### **Bullying**

Bullying is aggression towards a child; it can be verbal, psychological or physical.

## **CODE OF CONDUCT FOR YOUNG PEOPLE INVOLVED IN CHURCH ACTIVITIES**

To ensure that young people will enjoy, benefit from and feel safe while participating in Church activities they will:

- Be kind to each other and treat each other with respect regardless of race, cultural background or religion.
- Never bully, exclude anyone or engage in name calling against others. Remember that other people have feelings too so do not hurt them. Do not use abusive language.
- Follow the instructions of the group leader.
- Arrive on time and depart on time from Church activities.
- Remain in a supervised area at all times during the Church activity.
- Take care of one's property and respect the property of others.
- Report any behaviour that makes you feel uncomfortable to the leader of your group.
- Engage in the activity and contribute to the best of your ability in an age-appropriate manner.
- Do not take audio or visual recordings of any one present in the Church activity.
- Keep mobile phones on silent during Church activities.

*Archdiocese of Cashel and Emly  
Safeguarding Children*

*Information and Guidance*

*for*

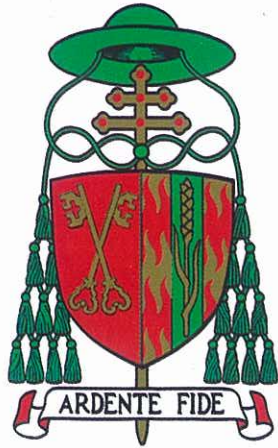
*Children, Young People  
and Parents*

*involved in*

*Church Activities*



**January 2014**



### What you as parents should do:

- Get to know who is working with your child.  
Make sure your child is never working alone with an adult.
- Be aware of warning signs.
- Be wary of people or activities where you are discouraged from getting involved.
- Know the Church's code of behaviour.
- Talk to someone if you are worried.

### What the Archdiocese will do:

- We will strive to create a safe environment for your child.
- We will listen if you or your child have any worries or concerns.
- We will report all concerns and allegations to the civil authorities.

**If you have any concerns  
please contact:**

**Designated Officer  
Mr Bill Meagher  
087 7914517**

**An Garda Síochana  
or  
The HSE**

