

Annual Parish Safeguarding Audit

A safeguarding annual audit is conducted in each parish and a report is given to the Diocesan Safeguarding Committee by the Safeguarding Co-ordinator.

- Our safeguarding structure - Diocesan Safeguarding Committee

The Diocesan Safeguarding Co-ordinator works with parishes to support and encourage effective safeguarding practice.

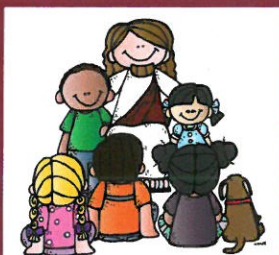
120 Local Safeguarding Representatives help Parish Priests across our 45 parishes.



The Designated Liaison Person (DLP) is responsible for ensuring that reporting procedures within the Church are followed, so that child welfare and protection concerns are referred to An Garda Síochána and Tusla. The Deputy Designated Liaison Person assumes this responsibility when the DLP is not available. It is important to note that a mandated person is responsible for fulfilling their obligation under the Children First Act 2015. This cannot be done on their behalf by the DLP, but they can make a joint report with the DLP.

If you are concerned about the Safeguarding Welfare of Children/ Vulnerable Adults please contact any of the following:

Tusla, Child and Family Agency - 051 842827
An Garda Síochána - 051 305300
Designated Liaison Person (DLP) - Fr. John Harris - 087 966 1959
Deputy Designated Liaison Person - Ms. Ann Howard - 087 216 6789
www.waterfordlismore.ie/safeguarding-children



@Diocese of Waterford & Lismore

Safeguarding Children in the Diocese of Waterford & Lismore

NEWSLETTER 2020



Message from Bishop Alphonsus Cullinan

Great credit is due to so many people around the Diocese who put time and effort into ensuring the safeguarding of young people and vulnerable adults. At parish level, Priests and Local Safeguarding Representatives work together and support each other in the implementation of the Safeguarding Policies and Procedures. I wish to thank all those who do this vitally important work.

It continues to be the responsibility of all of us to remain vigilant, thus ensuring that our environments are safe for young people in our church-related activities. We will in the near future undertake a review of our safeguarding practices conducted by the National Board for the Safeguarding of Children in the Catholic Church (NBSCCCI). The National Board is reviewing practices around the country. It has finished its work in several dioceses and will arrive here in the coming months. This will be a good opportunity for us all to show that we are ensuring to maintain best-practice to uphold a culture of safeguarding in our Diocese. Once again, I wish to thank all those who work so diligently in this area.

Sincerely,

+Alphonsus Cullinan

SAFEGUARDING IS EVERYONE'S BUSINESS



"The internet can help us to be better citizens; access to digital networks entails a responsibility for our neighbour whom we do not see but is nonetheless real and has a dignity which must be respected. The internet can be used wisely to build a society which is healthy and open to sharing"

– Pope Francis.

Principles to guide our presence in the Digital Highways (Archbishop Eamon Martin)

1. Be positive, communicating the 'joy of the Gospel'.
2. Strictly avoid aggression and 'preachiness' online; try not to be judgemental or polemical.
3. Never bear false witness on the internet.
4. Fill the internet with charity and love, continually seeking to include a sense of charity and solidarity with the suffering in the world.
5. Have a "broad back" when criticisms and insults are made – when possible, gently correct.
6. Pray in the digital world! Establish sacred spaces, opportunities for stillness, reflection and meditation online.
7. Establish connections, relationships and build communion, including an ecumenical presence online.
8. Educate young people to keep themselves safe and responsible online, particularly in light of cyberbullying and the prevalence and accessibility of pornography and online gambling.
9. "Give a soul to the internet", as Pope Benedict XVI once said – at all times witness to human dignity online.
10. Be missionary, remembering that, with the help of the internet, a message has the potential to reach the ends of the earth in seconds!

Safeguarding Training

Last year nearly 400 people attended safeguarding training in the Waterford & Lismore Diocese. Those who attended included priests, deacons, parish personnel workers, Lourdes youth leaders and Lourdes staff members, youth leaders for the faith-based summer camps and other people both staff and volunteers in the Diocese. The majority were lay people. The training takes a variety of forms, a full day training for those working directly with children and a shorter two hour information session for others involved in parish work. We are very grateful to all those who undertook safeguarding training in the Diocese during 2019.

*God our Father,
in honouring our baptismal call
to nurture the young,
we thank You for the gift of life,
We thank You for our children,
May we always treasure your image in them.*

*Bless all who work with children.
Guide us in our desire
to establish best practice in our communities,
so that young & old may be a reflection of your loving care.
We ask this through Christ our Lord, Amen.*