

## Safeguarding Commitment

When we are all clear about our roles and responsibilities in relation to the Church's Safeguarding Policy and Practices, this sends a very positive message to children, young people, parents and guardians in our communities.

Our new Code of Behaviour for Adults is a further step in raising awareness about child safeguarding. It recognises that each of us plays a part in creating a safe environment for children and young people.

Adults working in all ministries across OSA churches and communities are invited to read the Code and to commit to its principles. You can do this by completing the enclosed *Safeguarding Commitment* and returning it to the Prior or Parish Priest.

We aim for full compliance.  
Thank you.

## Contact Details

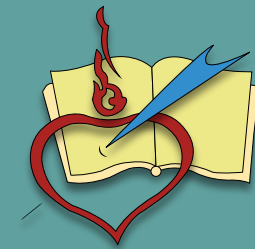
If you have child protection concerns contact the OSA Designated Liaison Person:

**Tony Murphy**  
087 2211 235

[osasafeguarding@gmail.com](mailto:osasafeguarding@gmail.com)

In the case of an emergency,  
contact the local Gardaí  
(see [www.garda.ie](http://www.garda.ie)) or  
Tusla – The Child & Family  
Agency  
(see [www.tusla.ie](http://www.tusla.ie))

## OSA Safeguarding



## Code of Behaviour for Adults involved in OSA Ministries

Protecting Others  
Protecting Ourselves

## Introduction

We all like to know what is expected of us and what we can expect from others. Children and young people are no different.

In a church context, it is vital that all lay volunteers and staff involved in ministry are clear about how they should behave around and towards children. You may work regularly with children in the Family Mass Team or as Altar Servers. You may meet them occasionally as a Flower Arranger or as a member of the Adult Choir.

Whatever your ministry you will potentially act as a role model to children and young people. Because of this position of influence, it is vital that clear values and positive behaviours guide all such interactions.

## Values We Promote

Children will be:

Nurtured by a culture of honesty and safety

Treated with respect and dignity

Supported to develop a clear understanding of their own rights

Facilitated to take on roles in developing their own capabilities

Cared for in open view with sufficient adults present

Encouraged to talk to a trusted adult about any concerns or worries.

## Healthy Relationships

As followers of Jesus who act in his name we will not:

Use inappropriate language

Place children in any harm

Ask children for their personal contact details

Take photographs of children without permission

Expose children to drug use

Invite children to our home