Shrine of Ss. Peter, Paul and St. Philomena

Guide to responding to allegations of abuse or concerns about children or vulnerable adults

Allegations of harm to a child or adult at risk by a member of the church personnel comes to light, including:

*Inappropriate behaviour

*Possible harm caused to a child or vulnerable adult, or

*Possible crime committed against a child or vulnerable adult Disclosure by Allegations & Complaint child or adult at Observations Concerns whistleblowing reports risk Is there any immediate risk or danger? Listen to and **Quick contacts** reassure the child/adult **Safeguarding** Representative: Yes Avoid No **Rachel Buckley** expressing disbelief or rachelbuckleydoh@gmail.com colluding. Immediately contact Tell them Contact the Safeguarding the police, social what you will **Local Authority** services or Local do next and Coordinator Authority designated keep them **Designated Officer for** Officer updated allegations: If the Safeguarding coordinator is not Andrew O'Brien available contact the Police, Social Contact the services or Local Authority andrew.obrien@dioceseofshe Safeguarding **Designated Officer** wsbury.org Coordinator Do not **Catholic Safeguarding** promise confidentiality **Advisory service** Take notes and pass on within 1 day Take notes and but do say that 02079011920 (form CM1) pass on within 1 their wishes day (form CM1) www.csas.uk.net should be considered by all professionals Safeguarding Allegations of past abuse should be

Safeguarding Coordinator will provide feedback

reported to the police, even if the alleged perpetrator is no longer alive or not perceived to be a current risk to children/vulnerable adult

Safeguarding Personnel

The Rector

The Rector of the Shrine has responsibility for the pastoral care of the community, with special regard for those most vulnerable.

The priest is assisted in this responsibility by a Shrine safeguarding representative.

Safeguarding Representative

The Safeguarding Representative has responsibility for promoting good and safe practices in all activities involving under 18 and vulnerable adults and for providing advice on child and adult safeguarding matters within the Shrine.

The Safeguarding Representative will have relevant training and a sound knowledge of the national policies and procedures and know who to contact if a concern or allegation is raised.

The Safeguarding Representative has a key role in the administration of the safer recruitment process, including facilitating the DBS Disclosure process at a local level.

Policy

The Church is fully committed to acting within the guidance as set out in Working Together to Safeguard Children (2018) and associated statutory and good practice guidance, (National Catholic Safeguarding commission, NCSC). To achieve this, the Church will act in an open, transparent and accountable way in working in partnership with Children's Social Care Services, the Police, Health Agencies, Probation Providers and other relevant agencies to safeguard children and assist in bringing to justice anyone who has committed an offence against a child or vulnerable adult.

Anyone who brings concerns or allegations to the notice of the Church will be responded to sensitively, respectfully and seriously. All concerns and allegations will be addressed using the Church's national procedures and in a timely manner.

Safeguarding Policy for Community Outreach Projects

- Appropriate recruitment and induction procedures for all new volunteers responsible for providing safe environments for everyone attending 'community outreach projects' at the Shrine. Volunteers who work with children or vulnerable adults to have an up-to-date DBS.
- All volunteers wear a name and photo badge.
- During project events all teachers/parents/guardians/carers are responsible for the
 continuous care and supervision of their own children/pupils/vulnerable adults. If they are
 unable to attend personally, they must delegate their responsibilities to an identified adult
 and ensure that their children/pupil/vulnerable adults are aware of the identity and name of
 the person responsible for their care. This includes supervision throughout their visit.
- Photographs will only be taken with written permission of the responsible adult or carer.