

Parish of St John the Evangelist

Safeguarding children and vulnerable adults

All children, young people and vulnerable adults have a fundamental right to be respected, nurtured, cared for and protected from harm. These basic rights are embedded in international and domestic laws, as well as in our Gospel values. They are the cornerstones of our safeguarding policy and procedures.

Here in St John's Parish, we strive to ensure best practice, which promotes the rights of children and vulnerable adults. We will implement safeguarding practices through compliance with the law and the Diocesan child Protection Policy and Procedures.

Families and carers also have a responsibility to be vigilant. If you have any concerns please raise them with the appropriate authorities. That may be the group leader in an organisation. It may be the parish safeguarding Committee. It may be the Down and Connor Safeguarding Office. It may be Social Services. It may be the PSNI.

If you have any concerns about the welfare of children or vulnerable adults, you should talk to one of the following.

<u>Organisation</u>	<u>Telephone</u>	<u>Ask For</u>
Social Services (Belfast gateway number)	028 9050 7000 Out of hours: 028 9504 9999	The Duty Social Worker
The Police Public Protection Unit, Tennent Street	101 IN AN EMERGENCY: 999	The Child Protection Team
Childline	0800 1111	
The NSPCC	0808 800 5000	
The Down and Connor Designated Child Protection Officer	028 9049 2783 028 9049 2793 Out Of Hours: 07713642855	A Diocesan Safeguarding Office.
The Parish Safeguarding Committee	028 9031 4112	Mary Kelly