



# Diocese of Limerick

## Safeguarding Children Policy Statement

**“Each child should be cherished and affirmed as a gift from God with an inherent right to dignity of life and bodily integrity which shall be respected, nurtured and protected by all.”**

*The National Board for Safeguarding Children - Standards & Guidance Document 2009*

The Limerick Diocese values and encourages the participation of children in the life of the Church and is committed to best practice, which protects children from harm and abuse. Staff, volunteers, clergy and religious in this Diocese accept and recognise our responsibilities to develop awareness of the issues which cause children harm. These responsibilities include:

- Adopting best practice child protection guidelines in accordance with the standards named in the National Board for Safeguarding Children Standards & Guidance Document.
- Ensuring that children will be listened to and heard.
- Sharing information about child protection and good practice with children, parents, staff, volunteers, clergy and religious.
- Sharing information about concerns with the relevant agencies and involving parents and children appropriately.
- Carefully following the procedures for recruiting, training and managing staff and volunteers, clergy and religious.
- Providing effective management for staff and volunteers through supervision, support and training.
- Being committed to reviewing our policy and good practice procedures on an annual basis.