

Guidance Document: Risk Assessment and Mitigation Strategies for Safe Environments

Undertaking effective risk assessments and developing mitigation strategies for parish activities involving children and young people are an important safeguarding strategy used to assist in creating child safe parish environments.

It is expected that all activities involving children and young people will be rigorously assessed using effective risk assessment and mitigation strategies by key personnel involved in the activity's development and implementation.

Step 1

• Identify the activity and the risks: What could happen, how could it happen?

Step 2

• Consequence/s of the risk: What could happen as a result of the risk?

Step 3

- Mitigation Strategies: What mitigation strategies are already in place to minimise or control the risk and what further mitigation strategies could you put in place? Can the risks in fact be mitigated, and if not, should the relevant activity proceed?
- Completed Risk Assessment to be signed off by Parish Priest.

Step 4

 Share and discuss the Risk Assessment and Mitigation Strategies with those involved in the activity, the workers (including Volunteers and parent helpers) and the children, for a safe and successful activity.

Step 5

- Evaluate the process: Did the mitigation strategies work? Is there more we need to do to create a safe environment?
- Update your plan if improvements can be made for next time.