

Form 12

Code of Behaviour for children taking part in Church activities



The right of children to be safe is paramount and the Perth Catholic Archdiocese is committed to empowering and listening to children, young people and vulnerable individuals and their families. Children of Archdiocesan parishes must also understand the code of behaviour that guides their well-being, as outlined below.

1. Code of behaviour

Our parish expects that children will act respectfully to themselves, their supervisors and fellow participants.

Children must accept the ground rules of activities which supervisors will clearly explain to them.

Children will not have unsupervised access to the Internet when participating in our parish programs.

Breaches of discipline and disruptive behaviour, including bullying, will be dealt with in a manner that is fair and transparent, by more than one Church worker. Children and their parents will be advised of the consequences for breaching the Code of Behaviour. A three-stage process will be followed: the first stage will be a verbal warning; the second stage will involve informing the child's parents; the third stage - if the behaviour continues - the child will be asked to leave the group. The child, parents and group leaders will be involved in the consultation.

Children, or their parents, who are dissatisfied with any aspect of activities or services can follow a complaints procedure; namely, to inform the leader of the program or, when appropriate, to contact one of our Parish Safeguarding Officers.

Please note:

- the parish only accepts liability or responsibility for an incident or accident caused by the negligence or breach of statutory duty of the parish, its staff and volunteers
- it is the responsibility of the parents to be on time when dropping off or collecting children
- all participants must keep to the Code of Behaviour for all activities; otherwise they may be asked to discontinue their participation
- leaders are not allowed to give participants a lift to or from activities. Refer to **Form 6 Code of Behaviour for all Church workers (paid and unpaid) working with children**
- any concerns regarding the welfare and safety of children participating in parish activities should be brought immediately to the attention of the Parish Safeguarding Officer or the statutory authorities.