



Safeguarding Communications Policy

MAY 2016

The Carmelite Order is committed to best practice in Safeguarding Children and making its *Safeguarding Children Policy & Procedures* widely known and understood. Recognising that communicating the Carmelite Order's Safeguarding message is an ongoing and continuous activity, we commit ourselves to having a rolling three-year **Safeguarding Communications Plan** which details how the Order's child safeguarding message will be communicated.

We are committed to communicating our Safeguarding message both among the friars and those who work along us (*ad intra*); and also, externally with those to whom we minister and come in contact (*ad extra*).

In particular, the Carmelite Order in Ireland commits itself to ensuring that:

1. The *Safeguarding Children Policy and Standards for the Catholic Church in Ireland* (2016) will be made available to all Carmelites, Staff, Volunteers, Parents and Children/Young People who access its ministries.
2. Every Carmelite Community will display a copy of the latest *Safeguarding Children Notice* in all church porches, parish or friary halls to which the public have access.
3. One meeting of the Safeguarding Committee every year will undertake to review all of the Province's safeguarding communications, strategies and how the Safeguarding Communications Plan for that year was implemented.
4. On the basis of the annual review, the Safeguarding Committee will develop a new rolling three-year Safeguarding Communications Plan.
5. At least one meeting per year of the Provincial Council will discuss the Safeguarding Communications Plan of the Province so that all the leadership of the Province are involved.
6. At least two meetings per year of local Carmelite communities will consider their local Safeguarding needs and the communication of our Safeguarding message.
7. Safeguarding will be a topic during the June Chapter or General Meeting of the Province every year.
8. Carmelite friars will undertake accredited Safeguarding training every five years.
9. An annual review of local communities will take place in order to assess how the message is being communicated, that the Standards are being complied with, and to ascertain local communities' needs in this area.
10. The Carmelite Order will encourage feedback from all groups (including children/young people) on our Safeguarding Children Policies and Procedures.