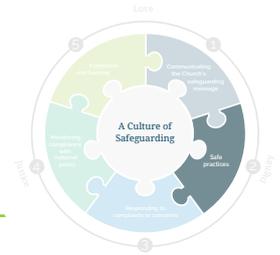


STANDARD 2

- Safe Practices



What is the standard?

Church entities provide environments that are welcoming, nurturing and safe. Members respect, protect and enhance the spiritual, physical, emotional, intellectual and social development of children and vulnerable adults.

Indicators that ensure the standard is being met

The Church entity:

- follows effective practice guidelines and legislative requirements in the recruitment of all Church personnel and in assessing their suitability to work with children or vulnerable adults;
- implements effective practice on the expected standards of adults' behaviour towards children and vulnerable adults;
- implements effective practice in encouraging children's positive behaviour;
- implements effective practice in safe care for all children and vulnerable adults including those with specific needs;
- ensures the safe use of Church property by external groups complies with effective safeguarding practice;
- has in place clearly written procedures to support and assist Church personnel to raise concerns about possible dangerous or unethical conduct by others toward children or vulnerable adults;
- implements effective practice for Church personnel on assessment of risks when working with children and vulnerable adults;
- implements effective practice for the appropriate use of information technology, including social media by Church personnel and by children and vulnerable adults; and
- works with tangata whenua to ensure practices value local tikanga.

Ways of providing evidence to support the implementation of this standard

Evidence of creating and maintaining safe environments may include having and using effective procedures and practice to:

- undertake safe recruitment practices, including police vetting;
- screen visiting clergy or persons in any form of consecrated life seeking to minister in the Catholic Church in New Zealand;
- set expectations of what is appropriate behaviour by adults towards children and vulnerable adults via a Code of Conduct or similar written document;
- set expectations of what is appropriate behaviour by children and vulnerable adults;
- deal with breaches of codes of behaviour for adults and for children;
- extend the use of church property by external groups, including hire for private functions;
- undertake risk assessments of activities with children and vulnerable adults; and
- provide for the safe use of technology, including the internet, texting, email and photography.