

The Anglican Diocese of Sydney requires that all leaders who work with children, youth or other vulnerable people abide by the Safe Ministry Pledge. The Anglican Diocese of Sydney wants its ministries to be characterised by grace and forgiveness, not rules and regulations; but the Bible is concerned that leaders have a particularly high standard in their personal life. Unfortunately, not all Christian workers have protected vulnerable people in the past.

The Safe Ministry Pledge is based on Faithfulness in Service 2017 (the national code for clergy and church workers in Anglican churches) and the Code of Conduct for Children's and Youth Ministry found in the Safe Ministry Blueprint documents (<https://safeministry.org.au/blueprints/>).

It is expected that you have read and will comply with the Safe Ministry Journey document best suited to your role.

The national code of conduct (*Faithfulness in Service*) is intended to identify the personal behaviour and practices of pastoral ministry that will ensure, as far as possible, that our children, youth and other vulnerable people are appropriately protected and cared for. The National Code of Conduct is not exhaustive and does not foresee every set of circumstances that may arise across the variety of church events and activities.

By agreeing to abide by the behaviour and practices the Safe Ministry Pledge outlines, we make our churches safer places for everyone.

By checking each box, you acknowledge that you understand and agree to abide by the Safe Ministry Pledge as it applies to the children, youth and other vulnerable people involved in your church and its programs. If you have any queries or concerns, please contact the Safe Ministry Team (the PSU) at (02) 9265 1604 or email info@safeministry.training

In acknowledgement of the above I pledge to:

- Never abuse children, youth, or other vulnerable people or cultivate relationships in order to initiate or cloak abuse.
- Report if I see or experience behaviour that could be considered abusive to the appropriate authorities.
- Never be alone with a child or young person away from the presence of other adults in my ministry role.
- Never have children or young people to my home or visit children or young people in their home when no other adult is present, and to never meet privately with a child or young person outside of church activities, except with the permission of a parent or guardian.
- Never touch children, youth, or other vulnerable people in a manner which is inappropriate given their age, gender, cultural background, or personal circumstances.
- Never physically discipline a child, youth or other vulnerable person in my ministry role.
- Never make illicit drugs, alcohol or cigarettes available to children or youth.
- Never develop inappropriate special relationships with particular children, youth or other vulnerable people that could be seen as involving favouritism or any form of special treatment.
- Never engage in any contact with children, youth, or other vulnerable people that is secretive (whether physical or through electronic media or in any other way).

- Never become romantically involved with any person in the youth or children's ministry where I am a leader.
- Refrain from taking unauthorised photos, movies or recordings of a child or young person on church property or at church activities without church authorisation and the parental/guardian consent.
- Refrain from viewing, possessing, producing or distributing restricted material containing sex or nudity without a legitimate purpose; and never view, possess, produce or distribute any form of child pornography or child exploitation material.

I confirm that:

- I will complete Safe Ministry training every 3 years or within 3 months after my appointment (and every 3 years after that).
- Where required, I will hold a Working with Children Check clearance obtained from the Office of the Children's Guardian.
- As soon as possible I will read, then regularly review, the Safe Ministry Blueprint document best suited to my role (where your role is not identified by the Safe Ministry Blueprint for Churches or other Blueprint role-specific documents, you should read the Safe Ministry Signpost) <https://safeministry.org.au/blueprints/>
- If I fail to abide by the Safe Ministry Pledge I will inform my senior minister or the Safe Ministry Team (the PSU) at the earliest possible opportunity.
- I understand that any breach of the Safe Ministry Pledge may lead to my being suspended or terminated from holding any role in relation to working with children, youth or other vulnerable persons in church ministries.

Name: _____

Date: _____

Signed: _____