

Scottish Episcopal Church

Safeguarding Children and Young People in the Church

CODE OF GOOD PRACTICE

- 1 Adopt the Policy Statement agreed by the General Synod on safeguarding the welfare of children and young people.
- 2 Plan the work of the organisation so as to minimise situations where the abuse of children and young people may occur.
- 3 Introduce a system whereby children and young people may talk with an independent person.
- 4 Apply agreed procedures for protecting children and young people to all paid staff and volunteers.
- 5 Give all paid staff and volunteers clear roles.
- 6 Use supervision of staff and volunteers as a means of protecting children and young people.
- 7 Treat all applicants for any position involving contact with children and young people in the same way.
- 8 Gain at least one reference, ideally from a person who has experience of the applicant's paid work or volunteering, if any, with children or young people.
- 9 Explore all applicants' experience of working or contact with children or young people in an interview before appointment.
- 10 Find out whether an applicant has any conviction for criminal offences against children or young people.
- 11 Make paid and voluntary appointments conditional on the successful completion of a probationary period.
- 12 Issue guidelines on how to deal with the disclosure, suspicion or discovery of abuse.
- 13 Train paid staff and volunteers, their Co-ordinators or Supervisors, and policy makers in the prevention of child abuse.