

Garda Vetting

Garda Vetting is an integral part of the church policy to ensure the safety of children and vulnerable adults, together with the completion of application and declaration forms. The Archdiocese of Dublin supports the principle that Church personnel who have contact with children and vulnerable adults should undergo Garda Vetting. Because every role potentially involves contact with children and/or vulnerable adults, and irrespective of the degree of such contact, the Diocese requires all who are employed or who engage in volunteer ministry or works of service for the Christian community to undergo Garda Vetting as an expression of our common commitment to safeguarding children and vulnerable adults.

Garda vetting does not have to be something that anyone should be fearful of, the parish child safeguarding representatives are available to assist those who need help in filling in the vetting form and they can also seek the advice of the diocese in relation to anyone who has difficulty remembering previous addresses or other such difficulties. Even those people who may have had a problem with the law in the past do not need to be concerned once they declare the offence they were convicted of and this is matched with the information on the Garda database. If a person has convictions it will be taken into account how many there were, what was the nature of the conviction, the time lapse since the conviction and the efforts the person has made not to re-offend.

There is a very helpful document available on the Dublin Archdiocese website www.dublindiocese.ie/content/garda-vetting-policy which will answer any questions you may have. It is the wish of everyone in the church that children and vulnerable adults are safe and protected and vetting is part of this plan.

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