



## Written agreement for Volunteers

Name of Volunteer:

Role(s):

As we place a high value on our ministry with children, young people and vulnerable adults, it is important that you are aware of the resources and support available to you and that you are not in an unsupported or unsupervised position. You may have already received particular responsibilities of your ministry through a discussion or role description.

Support for your ministry is accessible through either an appointed group leader(s) or your parish priest, this may include ongoing training and development as well as oversight of the role. Any further questions that arise, can be discussed with the appointed leader(s) or priest.

### TO BE READ AND UNDERSTOOD BY THE APPLICANT

Every human being has a value and dignity which we as Catholics acknowledge as coming directly from God's creation of male and female in his own image and likeness. We believe therefore that all people should be valued, supported and protected from harm.

In the Catholic Church this is demonstrated by the provision of carefully planned activities for children, young people and adults; supporting families under stress; caring for those hurt by abuse in the past; ministering to and managing those who have caused harm.

It is because of these varied ministries that we need to take all reasonable steps to provide a safe environment for all which promotes and supports their wellbeing. This will include carefully selecting and appointing those who work with children, young people or adults at risk and responding robustly where concerns arise.

As part of my ministry, I understand that safeguarding is everyone's responsibility. It is important to have an awareness of the signs and symptoms of abuse, and in line with my role I will ensure that any concerns or allegations that are reported or observed will be referred onto designated safeguarding leads (priest/parish safeguarding representative/diocesan safeguarding coordinator). In the event of an immediate concern about the welfare of a child or adult at risk, contact will be made with the police.

To support my understanding and confidence around safeguarding, I understand the need to undertake mandatory training every 3 years, alongside the completion of a DBS check, prior to my appointment to role.

### **Policy Statement**

*The Diocese of Northampton is committed to providing a safe, dignified and respectful working environment for all those who serve the Diocese, consistent with Gospel values and the Catholic ethos and mission. Sexual harassment is unlawful, contrary to Catholic teaching on the dignity of the human person and will not be tolerated in any form.*

Signed:

Date:

**NB** - 2 copies of this form should be made. 1 copy kept by the individual. 1 retained by parish.