

CABRAMATTA RUSSIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH OF THE INTERCESSION OF THE HOLY VIRGIN

CHILD AND YOUNG PEOPLE RISK MANAGEMENT STRATEGY

General	<p>As part of the church entity's risk management strategy, it is important to remember that children and young people require a high level of risk management. Components of risk management strategy are the Child-Safe Child-Friendly policy, code of conduct, Working with Children checks compliance, training etc.</p> <p>Checklists may identify general risks that should always be considered, however, it is important to brainstorm with your church/parish council, safety contact person, etc., all potential risks that might result in harm to a child or young person. Workplace health and safety processes consider environment and equipment risks. However it is a requirement that the church/parish must assess and identify the risks associated with the child and youth. Risks for consideration are those that are physical, emotional, psychological and sexual in nature including the risks from:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• other children or young people;• someone outside the church organisation;• church workers and volunteer <p>Risk management plans for high risk activities and special events should be developed in collaboration with all concerned and documented, this involves identifying potential risks and taking steps to remove or minimise those risks.</p>
Risk Management Process for high risk activities and special events	<p>There are six steps to consider in the development of a risk management plan:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• describe the activity• identify the risk• analyse the risk• balancing/evaluating the risk• manage the risk• review
Describe the activity	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• what is the activity and what are your objectives;• where is the activity going to take place - what environment factors need to be considered;• identify all concerned, church workers, parents, and children and young people involved in the activity; and• identify all elements of the event from beginning to end.
Identify the risks	<p>Other than common risks, the following sample questions are prompts that may identify potential risks of harm associated with the high risk activities and special events.</p> <p>How might harm occur?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Running an activity where outside public has access to children• Church worker or volunteers spending long periods alone with a child or young person.• A volunteer providing transport to a child or young person.

Why might harm occur?

- Inadequate recruitment and selection practices of volunteers.
- Incorrect instructions given to volunteers working with children or young people.
- Not providing or insufficient training for volunteers.

When might harm occur?

- Inadequate adult supervision
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Analyse the risk

Risk analysis is about quantifying and identifying the level of risk. Once a risk has been identified a rating is allocated (based on likelihood and potential consequences). The objective is to provide an assessment of each risk as Extreme, High, Moderate or Low.

Evaluate the risk

The purpose of risk evaluation is to make decisions, based on the outcomes of risk analysis. The level of risk will determine whether the high risk activity or special event is practical. When balancing the risk you should look at the potential for some risks to be minimised and control measures should be put in place.

Manage the risk

Risk management involves assessing the options in order to reduce the risk and the preparation and implementation of risk management plans.

Review

Reviewing controls and responsibilities can be useful for future planning and effective risk management plans.
