

UPDATES TO THE CHILD PROTECTION DECREE
Archdiocese of Cincinnati
Effective JULY 1, 2013

There were several updates, definitions added, etc. Please look over carefully.

Revised Decree was signed by Archbishop Schnurr on June 17, 2013 and went into effect on July 1, 2013.

In the glossary:

Addition of Child Pornography and definition of same

Addition of Civil Authorities and definition

Change of title

Coordinator of Ministry to Survivors of Abuse from Victim Assistance
Sandy Keiser

Extended definition of Regular Volunteer—direct quote

for purposes of this Decree, a “regular volunteer” is an adult who is not a cleric or employee (for example, a catechist, scout leader, coach, server coordinator, etc.) who functions in a regular relationship having contact with children. This includes interns, student teachers and others in similar capacities.

For example, a regular volunteer is one who has contact with children:

- ◆ *on any overnight event;*
- ◆ *on at least a monthly basis; or*
- ◆ *in a multi-day program (e.g. Vacation Bible School).*

A regular volunteer has contact with children at least once a month, or participates in any overnight event with children. It does not include the occasional volunteer such as a driver or chaperone whose contact with children is less than one hour per month for activities that are not overnight.

Addition of Response Team and definition

Addition of Review Board and definition

Also Safe Environment Coordinator

Tom Coz

Decree Section 1: Prevention

A.6 Policy –

When Church-sponsored events or activities for children take place in people’s homes, all Archdiocesan policies regarding child protection (including the provisions of this *Decree* and any others governing Church activities with children) shall be in effect.

A.10 Recommendation

Children who volunteer in service to other children, while being supervised by adults in accord with this *Decree*, should not attend a VIRTUS® Child Awareness Session on this *Decree*, due to the sensitive nature of the content of those Sessions.

Addition to A.11 Policy

Any adult who receives a report of child-on-child abuse should promptly report the same to Civil Authorities, to the Chancellor and to the Coordinator of Ministry to Survivors of Abuse.

Please note in C.3 Policy

Minimum: Recommended ratio of adults to children is 1:10
Mixed group of children—appropriate ratio of male to female
For all teams there must be one adult of same gender as team members

Addition to C.7 Policy

The names of all responsible supervisors for any extracurricular activities shall be clearly stated on materials given to parents and/or guardians when any child is signed up to attend such events.

Addition to C.9 Policy—prohibited physical contact

Stroking a child's hair or shoulders

Addition to C.9 Policy—emotional boundaries

Contact by social media *initiated by adult to individual*

Addition to C.9 Policy—prohibited behaviors

Behaving rudely in the presence of a child;
And
Engaging in, viewing / listening to child pornography,
possessing child pornography on any personal electronic
device, or on any electronic device owned by a parish,
school, agency, or institution of the Archdiocese;

Addition to Policy on Transportation of Children:

Please see bottom of page 19 and page 20. Previously oral policy—now written.

Section II: Response

Some wording changes but no substantive changes.

Complete text: Decree on Child Protection of the Archdiocese of Cincinnati

Revised Summary Brochure on the Decree on Child Protection