

Children's Liturgy FAQs

Q1 How do I become a Children's Liturgy Leader?

A1 Anyone wishing to become a Children's Liturgy Leader must follow this procedure:

- Complete a volunteer application form and provide the names of two referees (these referees will be contacted by the Archdiocesan Safeguarding Team)
- Complete a PVG application specifically for voluntary work with the Archdiocese (or make a PVG update application specifically for voluntary work with the Archdiocese, if already in possession of a PVG for other regulated work whether paid or voluntary).
- Give your application forms to your parish coordinator who will pass them to the Archdiocese.
- Attend Archdiocesan Safeguarding Induction Training Part 1
- Once these three requirements are met, the Archdiocesan Safeguarding Team will issue an **approval letter** to the volunteer with copies to the relevant Parish Priest and Parish Safeguarding Coordinator. The prospective volunteer must not start their role until the approval letter has been issued.

Q2 What is the target age range for Children's Liturgy?

A2 The target age range is children of primary school age specifically from p1 to p5 inclusive. As such resources are aimed at this age group.(At the discretion of the Parish Priest younger children may attend).

Q3 What is the position regarding Safeguarding if parents wish to accompany their children to Children's Liturgy?

A3 If parents wish to accompany their own child(ren), it must be made clear to them that they are only responsible for their own children and cannot take any responsibility for any other children present. They cannot, for example, take any children to the toilet (other than their own children).

Parents looking after their own children **do not** need a PVG as they **are not carrying out regulated work**. They are not volunteers and are only occupied in looking after their own children. Also, they do not count in the volunteer adult to child ratio.

Q4 Why does the template not say that children should assemble on the sanctuary on return to the church after the Offertory Procession for some discussion with the Priest?

A4 Although this used to happen, the current Archdiocesan guidance is that the children should quietly return to their seats after attending their Liturgy.

With thanks to Angela Hughes, Safeguarding Adviser, Archdiocese of St. Andrews & Edinburgh for advice provided.

For further advice contact: angela.hughes@staned.org.uk