**Risk Assessment for Children’s Liturgy in the Church Narthex at St Gregory’s 2025**

**Activity:** Children’s Liturgy 9am Mass Sunday

**Venue:** St Gregory’s Church, Victoria Drive, Eastbourne, BN20 8QY

**Responsibility for Children**:

All parents/carers complete a parental consent form for each child who attends CL sessions. This may be done at the first session, or for a new family after the initial session. The following responsibilities are stated:

(1) babies, toddlers and children 4 & under are the responsibility of parents who remain in the session.

(2) Children aged 4-8 (school years R to 3) – can attend with parents or on their own; in the latter case all parents/carers are expected to remain in the building (at Mass in main part of church).

**Who might be harmed:**

Young children, volunteers, parishioners

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Hazard** | **Who may be hurt?** | **Arrangements to mitigate** | **What else could be done?** |
| Fire | Anyone | * Fire Exits are clearly signed. * Fire extinguishers (wall mounted just inside both the main entrance door and side porch door) * First Aid kit available in Sacristy. * Plentiful cold running water is available to treat individuals. * There are notices on display in the narthex regarding evacuation procedures and fire exits and location of fire extinguishers. * No smoking or vaping allowed on premises.   NB: Assembly point in case of fire – exit out of main door or side door & assemble in car park. | * In case of evacuation the CL leader to bring register. |
| Accidents   * Trips & slips | Children/ anyone | * Care taken by leaders with set up/lifting tables/moving chairs * Venue is well organised, plenty of space and minimal equipment. * Doors are closed during sessions. * All remain alert. * First Aid kit available in Sacristy. | * NB No qualified First Aiders present, but parents are on hand/able to take necessary action * Accidents/Incidents to be recorded in accident book in Sacristy. |
| Safeguarding   * Inadequate supervision * Children straying | Children | * All parents/carers register at the start of each session. * All parents/carers to complete consent form at first session. This will be kept in CL folder, stored securely & available at each session. * All parents/carers remain at St Gregory’s throughout the session (either in the liturgy session or at Mass). * Door to session is closed and children are accompanied to the toilet by parent/carer. * Parents are aware that no child other than their own should leave the room when they do, nor leave the building unless with their parent or carer. * All CL leaders are DBS checked and have completed the diocesan safeguarding training module in child protection. | * Coordinator to remind team re completion of safeguarding training. * Team to have good overall awareness of child and adult safeguarding policy in the parish. |
| Welfare  Becoming unwell | Children | * Parents are on hand to respond if a child becomes unwell. * Parents are requested not to attend if they/their child have symptoms or are unwell. * Facilities are good: toilets are available; the Narthex is heated; there is h/c running water. * Mobile phone should be available to call emergency services although parent/carer should beOur Lady of Ransom, St Agnes & St Gregory easily located. * Overcrowding is unlikely due to monitored numbers. | * Consent form asks parents for information on additional needs, allergies, medical conditions. * Consent form asks parents to encourage their child to engage positively at sessions. |
| Disabled access | General risk | * No disabled members currently on the register, although an assessment of their needs would be made if any were to attend. This would be done with the co-operation & assistance of parent/carer. * Side entrance/exit is suitable for wheelchair users and the floor is level and safe. * There is a disabled toilet. |  |

**Rist Assessment prepared by PSR Alison Parsons 07/04/2025** Alison Parsons

**Signed off by Jemma Harvey, Coordinator for Children’s Liturgy** Jemma Harvey

**Seen by PP Fr Kevin Dring** Kevin Dring