



Feel Safe Be Safe

A KIDS GUIDE



Keeping you safe is very important to us.

We think you are awesome and we want you to feel safe, and be safe, especially when you're with us.

At church, we believe:

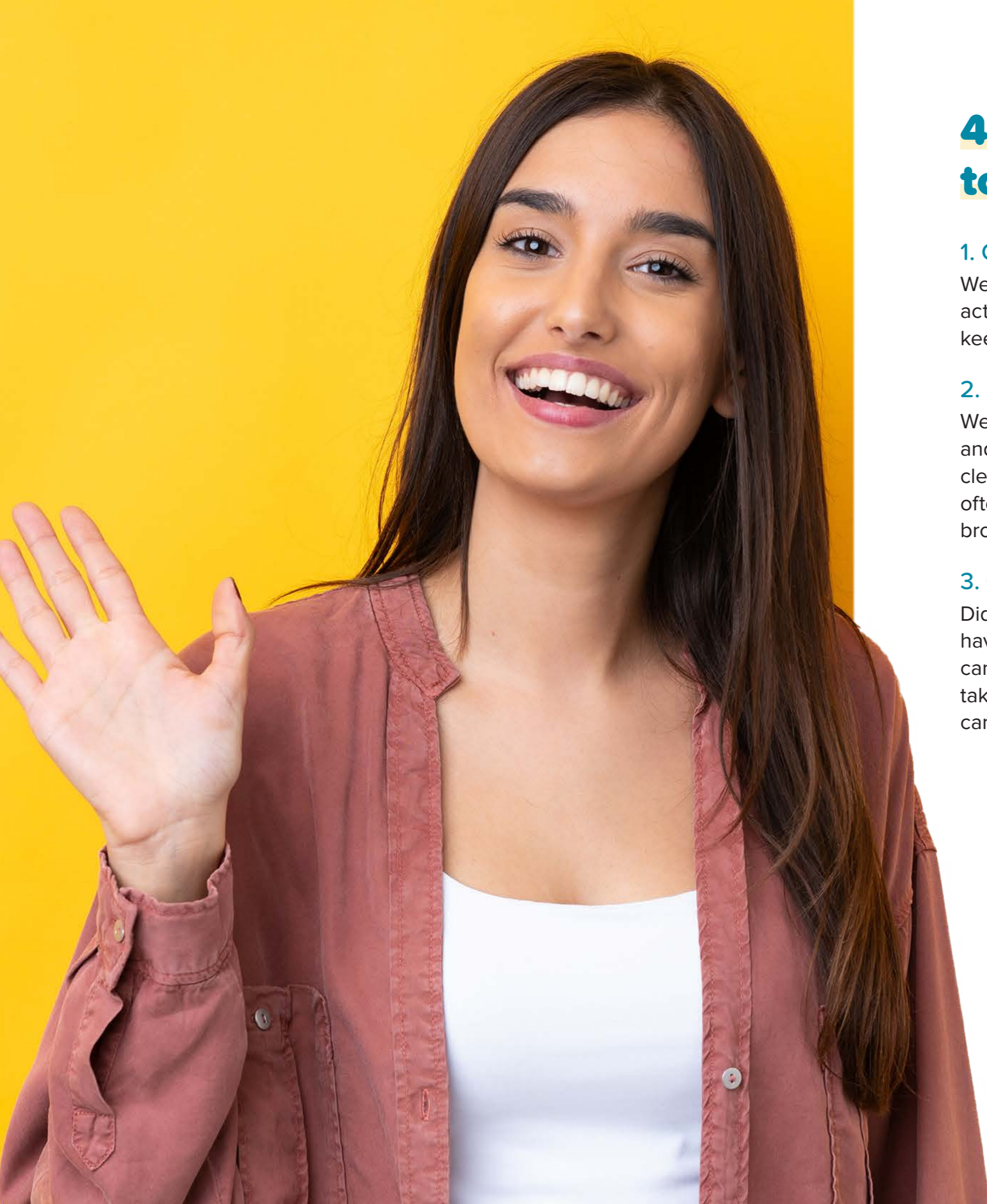
- › Everyone should feel safe
- › Everyone should feel like they belong.
- › Everyone should be looked after.
- › We are all different and special.

Church is a place where you can be friends with God, and friends with other kids!

We want you to have fun, explore, worship and learn about life with God.

This booklet tells you what we're doing to keep kids safe, and what you can do if you're not feeling safe.





4 things we are doing to keep YOU safe.

1. Careful Planning

We carefully plan all our activities to make sure we can keep everyone safe.

2. Our Buildings

We make sure the rooms, toys and equipment we have are clean and safe. We check these often to make sure nothing is broken.

3. Our Leaders

Did you know all our leaders have to pass tests before they can be a leader? All the people taking care of you have been carefully chosen.

4. Our Champion Listener!

We have a special person at church who is really, really good at listening. You can tell them anything! If something is making you feel bad or sad they will listen and take you seriously.

They are our Child Safety Champion!

DO YOU HAVE IDEAS TOO?

IF YOU'VE THOUGHT OF WAYS TO MAKE KIDS FEEL SAFER AT CHURCH, LET US KNOW! YOU CAN TALK TO A LEADER OR OUR CHILD SAFETY CHAMPION.

Rules for you

TO KEEP YOUR BODY SAFE

Your body belongs to you, and you can say 'NO' when people make you feel bad. Here are 4 things to remember:

- › You should never have to keep a secret that makes you feel bad or uncomfortable.
- › Your private parts, including your mouth, should not be touched by anyone.
- › No one should ask to touch your private parts or ask you to touch their private parts.
- › No one should show you pictures of private parts.

If any of these things happen, you must tell an adult you trust or our Child Safety Champion.

Rules for leaders & adults

TO KEEP YOUR BODY SAFE

To make sure that your private parts are not accidentally touched by a leader or adult at church, they are not allowed to:

- › Kiss you
- › Tickle you
- › Wrestle you
- › Help you after going to the toilet (unless it's necessary)
- › Cuddle you or have you sit in their lap
- › Give you piggy backs



*TO MAKE SURE THAT YOU ARE
NEVER HURT YOU SHOULD ALWAYS
HAVE AN ADULT WITH YOU.*

Rules for everyone

- › No hitting or smacking
- › Don't push or hold anyone down
- › No biting or spiting, pinching or scratching

Words are important too

No one should make you feel bad by using bad words that make you feel uncomfortable or sad. No one should:

- › Say mean things about you.
- › Put you down because of what you look like or your family or ability.
- › Yell at you angrily (it is OK for a leader to raise their voice to get group attention if needed).
- › Threaten you.

Our leaders are not allowed to have favourites.

You should tell someone if an adult:

- › Gives you presents.
- › Does things just for you.
- › Talks or sends messages just to you without checking with your parents first.

Places our leaders are not allowed to go with you.

- › Anywhere without your parents' permission.
- › A place where no one can see you.
- › Your bedroom.
- › In a car, unless there is another leader there too.

Being safe online

There are online safety rules that adults and leaders must follow to keep you safe. Leaders are not allowed to:

- › Ask for friendship from you on social media platforms.
- › call or send messages that are not part of a group chat or without checking with your parents first.
- › Exchange personal contact details with you such as phone number, social networking sites, or email addresses.
- › Photograph or video you, or upload them to any social media apps or sites without your parent's approval.



YOU SHOULD TELL SOMEONE IF YOUR PHOTO OR A VIDEO WAS TAKEN WITHOUT YOUR PERMISSION, OR THE TYPE OF PHOTO MADE YOU FEEL UNCOMFORTABLE.

IF YOU SEE, HEAR, OR FEEL SOMETHING THAT MAKES YOU FEEL UNSAFE OR WORRIED, TELL ONE OF YOUR TRUSTED ADULTS, OR TALK TO OUR CHILD SAFETY CHAMPION.

Can you think of 5 adults you trust?

If you were sad or upset about something, you'd need some adults you could talk to.

Can you think of 5 adults that you trust?

They could be parents, grandparents, aunts, uncles, teachers, a church leader, or another adult friend.

A message from your Child Safety Champion:

You are important to me! If you have a safety problem or something you need to talk about, I want to know.

I don't mind being interrupted (even if I seem too busy!) and I don't mind if you have to tell me something that will upset someone else. I don't even mind if have to say something embarrassing.

Some secrets are not good to keep. I want to know what is worrying you, even if someone told you to keep a secret and made you promise not to tell.

If you made a mistake and need to tell someone, I promise I won't get mad or upset if you tell me about it.

I am here to help you so please do tell me if something or someone has hurt or upset you. I want you to feel safe and be safe.

Protecting you is very important to me!

How to get hold of me

You can contact me anytime! Talk to me at church, or send me a message.

My details are here:

My Name: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Other important numbers

If you, or someone you know is in danger right now call 000 and ask for the Police.

If you just need to talk to someone and don't feel there is anyone else you can talk to, call the Kids Helpline (it's free to call) 1800 551 800

We care about what kids have to say

We want to know how you feel and what makes you feel safe or unsafe. That is why we are committed to listening and giving young people a voice and a way to be heard.

You can let us know about things that are happening to you at church, at home, at sports, at school, anywhere!

You can even let us know about something that you know is happening to someone else that you think we need to know about.



Information for parents

Acts Global Churches (the organisation our church belongs to) believes that all children have the right to feel safe and be safe.

Children and young people who are involved in any of our activities should receive the highest possible standard of care and protection.

We have developed policies and implemented procedures for the safety and protection of children and young people.

Here are some of the safety measures we have in place:

Screening employees and volunteers.

We have processes in place for employing staff and volunteers who are looking after your children. This includes background checks and training.

A child safe policy and code of conduct.

Our commitment to safety is outworked through these documents. The code of conduct outlines the behaviour expected of all employees and volunteers.

Risk mitigation.

Embedding child safety into all aspects of the church through our risk management approach to planning.

Inclusion and involvement of children.

Involving children in decision making and giving them ways to be heard empowers children to safeguard against abuse.

Protection and safe storage of data.

This includes personal information and photographs. Your child's image should not be used or shared without your permission and all personal information should be stored securely.

We welcome parent involvement and feedback.

If you have questions regarding the safety and care of your children in our programs, please get in touch.

What you can expect of any child or youth program at our church:

- › Regular updates on programs and activities.
- › To be included and consulted on what our programs include, child safeguarding issues and ways to improve.
- › That all communication and activity with your child both in person and online is transparent.
- › Assistance that builds on a family's strengths and empowers them to meet the changing needs of their children and young people.
- › Timely feedback to any concerns or issues you raise.

Do you have questions, concerns, want to make a formal report or just need more information?

Program or Event questions - Please speak to the Department Leaders.

Safety concerns - If you have a safety concern, or wish to make a report regarding unsafe practice or unsafe actions by leaders or participants, please contact our Child Safety Champion.

Unsure of what to do, or would like advice - You can contact the Acts Global Churches National Child Protection team at childprotection@actsglobal.church

As a parent your child may disclose information regarding the abuse of another child or themselves. All disclosures must be reported and you should contact us or the appropriate bodies to make a report of abuse. If your child reports conduct from a leader that breaches our policies and code of conduct then you should notify us as soon as possible.

Church contact details

The name of our Child Safe Champion is:

Contact Phone:

Email:

Church email for general information:

Church Phone:





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