

Protection of Children and Youth

Safe Environment Training Programs

The USCCB has indicated that the mandated child protection/safe environment training of children and youth has resulted in more children coming forward to report cases of inappropriate behavior on the part of adults. More importantly, the children coming forward no longer feel a sense of shame about incidents; they know that the abuse was not their fault.

With this information and experience in mind, the diocese requires that all children and youth in a parish or Catholic school be presented age-appropriate programs each year and that documentation is maintained by the parish or school. [How to speak to your children about difficult subjects](#), etc.

For more information:

<https://www.eriecd.org/childprotection/policyupdatenotice.html>

Please complete and return to the Faith Formation Office with your Registration Form the *“Parental Option Form for the Protection of Children In-Servicing for Faith Formation Students”* and *“Authorization Form for Photographs/Video of Children”*

This form can be found here:

https://www.eriecd.org/images/sections/childprotection/pdf/cp_par_opt_reprograms.pdf

<https://www.eriecd.org/images/sections/religiouseducation/pdf/photography.pdf>

If unable to download forms, please contact the Faith Formation Office for copies.