**PCV Safe Church Role Description – Ordained Minister**

Church/Organisation name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

*This form is to be completed by those in paid ministry worker roles in the PCV (Ordained Ministers), as part of the PCV child safety screening via the Safe Church Appointments Process.*

**Aim:**

As a [insert name of role here], you aim to:

* Share the gospel within the local church and community
* Serve God in all you do in the ministry team
* Encourage and support members of the ministry team
* Teach the Bible faithfully and truthfully
* Model the Christian life to the those you minister to
* Encourage and pray for team members
* Be involved in the planning and implementing of the ministry program(s).

**Responsibilities:**

(*reference GAA Code Book Chapter 6)*

You are directly responsible to the Presbytery for the discharge of all the duties of your office. Responsibilities include:

* Perform all the duties of a faithful minister of the Gospel
* Give conscientious attendance upon the Courts of the Church and direct your best attention to the business thereof
* Faithfully, diligently and cheerfully perform all the parts of the ministerial work of the body of Christ

**Role Requirements:**

You must:

* Hold a current Victorian Working With Children Check card / Victorian Institute Teaching card, shown this card to the ministry leader and provided the card number
* Have received and read the Safe Church Policy and Code of Conduct
* Undertaken or agreed to undertake the Safe Church Basic and Advanced Training Courses and the Online Refresher Course
* Sign this role description as an indication of your acceptance of the responsibilities of the role and agreement to abide by the PCV Safe Church Policy and Code of Conduct
* In regards to your ongoing suitability to work with children, be willing to comply with the expectations, reasonable directions and decisions of the Session/PCV organisation and higher court of the church.
* Follow the PCV Safe Church reporting procedures for reporting child abuse concerns and/or disclosures.

**Child Protection Protocols for this role:**

All people involved in the ministry, regardless of age, are covered by these protocols. *Note: They do not replace the Safe Church Policy or Code of Conduct. Rather they are intended to provide helpful general protective protocol advice.*

* Do not allow yourself to be in any area alone with a child under 18. Always have another team member, leader or the parent with you.
* If a child has questions for you during the ministry events, ask another team member to remain in the room while you talk to them
* If a child is distressed and needs to be consoled, it is best practice with older children and teens particularly that a person of the same gender does the consoling. Ensure that another team member is either with you or nearby (within sight) at all times, and use your discretion when speaking and comforting the child. With very young children they will often gravitate towards a “mum”-like person, or indeed there may only be women involved in the children’s ministry. Obviously in this situation the advice concerning being of the same gender as the child does not apply here.
* If a child discloses information to you regarding any kind of abuse or neglect, or you have concerns about these issues in relation to a child you must pass on this information to the ministry leader and then to the Safe Church Unit. However, be careful not to reveal this confidence to any other person
* If a child discloses information to you regarding any kind of abuse or behaviour by a team member or the ministry leader which breaches the Safe Church Code of Conduct contact the Safe Church Unit – 0499 090 449.
* In the case of a disclosure, please ensure that you write down the full details including, the date, time and location at the time or shortly thereafter.

**Declaration:**

I have read and agree to abide by this Role Description, the Safe Church Policy and Code of Conduct:

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**Print name**

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**Signature Date**

*This role description is to be signed and returned to the Appointing Body Representative and a copy sent to the Safe Church Unit, along with the Appointments Process form, for finalisation and advice back to the Appointing Body.*