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# CHURCHWIDE SAFETY POLICY

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Desert Mission Anglican Church (DMAC) values children and all especially vulnerable people, and desires to reflect God's love to those in our care. We take very seriously our call to provide an environment where we can bring our children to the Savior and allow them to become fully devoted followers of Jesus Christ.

Not only does this environment need to be nurturing, caring and loving, it also needs to be safe. The following boundaries outline our expectations for every person at DMAC:

1. All touch should be welcomed by the other person
2. We prohibit inappropriate physical affection between adults and children not their own such as: wrestling, tickling, full frontal hugs, kissing at all and sitting on laps, slapping the buttocks, or any other playful gesture in private areas of the body (except nursery-aged children may sit on laps and be hugged *with parental permission*)
3. Touch in a power differential should be accountable to others
4. No one should be alone with a minor in an isolated area unless they are the parent or guardian
5. Parents or caregivers of elementary-aged children and younger should always be in the same room as the child
6. Outside our children's ministry procedure, only a parent or guardian may assist a child in the restroom
7. Show respect in words: avoid words that shame, belittle, or sexualize (e.g., jokes, stories, or sharing sexualized content like videos)

In the case of boundary violations, please notify the rector and the church child safety team. More information on reporting can be found at:

<https://desertmissionanglican.org/safeguarding>

