



January 2024

Dear Parents and Guardians,

In an effort to assist in the monumental mission of protecting children, the Office for Child and Youth Protection and the Office of Catechetical Formation is partnering with you to present a safe environment lesson to your child who is attending as a virtual or at home learner. It is our cherished role as adults to fully protect children. In addition, we must also teach children about their safety rights and boundaries, so that they have tools to protect themselves. What follows is information about the program itself and the resources available to you.

**PLEASE NOTE: You are required to review, sign and return page 2.**

*Teaching Touching Safety Program Information:*

Students attending Archdiocesan Parish Religious Education Programs review the *KidTalk* child abuse prevention lesson each year. In these classes, they learn how to identify situations in which an adult may try to take advantage of them and provides students with information on what to do and where to go for help.

This year since your child is attending virtually and/or at home, we are partnering with you in delivering this content, you can find more information at <https://childyouthprotection.org/index.php/protect-children/trainings/kidtalk-overview> . Additional resources can be found at the Office for Child and Youth Protection website at [www.childyouthprotection.org](http://www.childyouthprotection.org). Following the lesson, we encourage you to continue reinforcing the message at home whenever possible.

- I. **LESSON FORMAT:** Due to the current model of virtual and at home learning for Archdiocesan Religious Education Programs, **we will be providing the lesson plan to you as the parent/guardian to present the information directly to your own child.** You will receive the lesson electronically from your parish along with any additional instructions on sharing this information with the child in your care.
- II. **ACKNOWLEDGMENT/OPT OUT FORM:** After a review of the child abuse prevention lesson, parents/guardians may opt out their child(ren) from the teaching of this lesson. You must sign the enclosed form for each child either indicating that you have taught the lesson or would like to have your child(ren) excused from this lesson. Please return the signed form to the parish.
- III. **CONTACT INFORMATION:** *For questions on presenting the lessons, please contact the Office for Child and Youth Protection at 215-587-2466 or via email at [OCYP@archphila.org](mailto:OCYP@archphila.org), or go to [www.childyouthprotection.org](http://www.childyouthprotection.org) under “protect children/resources for parents” for additional information and resources.*



**PARENT/GUARDIAN ACKNOWLEDGEMENT**

*Complete this portion AFTER you have provided the “KidTalk” child abuse prevention lesson to your child.*

I, (name of parent/guardian) \_\_\_\_\_, certify that I have presented my child (name) \_\_\_\_\_ in level \_\_\_\_\_, the *KidTalk* Lesson on (date) \_\_\_\_\_.

Parent Signature\* \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

**SAFE ENVIRONMENT LESSON OPT-OUT**

*Complete this portion ONLY if you do not want your child to participate in this lesson.*

I, (name of parent/guardian) \_\_\_\_\_, request that my child (name) \_\_\_\_\_ in level \_\_\_\_\_, be excused from participating in this year’s *KidTalk* Lesson. I realize information for parents/guardians and be found at [www.chillyouthprotection.org](http://www.chillyouthprotection.org) under Safe Environment-education and training.

Parent Signature\* \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

*\*If you are unable to print, sign and scan this form your typed name above will be considered your signature.*

**PLEASE RETURN THE COMPLETED FORM TO YOUR PARISH PROGRAM**

Thank you for your partnership with us to protect children and youth.