



# GOOD SHEPHERD SCHOOL

620 Isham Street New York, NY 10034 • Tel: 212 567 5800 • [www.gsschoolnyc.org](http://www.gsschoolnyc.org) • Fax: 212.567.5839

October, 2016

Dear Good Shepherd Parents,

The safety and well-being of all our children in our parish and school communities are our highest priorities. To serve the goal of creating a safe environment, every year in our schools and religious education programs, the children receive lessons in personal safety, as required by the *Bishops Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People*, which was adopted by the U.S. Bishops in 2002.

This year, our Safe Environment lesson plans have been fully revised to better address each grade level, with a lesson which is age-appropriate, user-friendly, and consistent with the moral teachings of the Catholic Church. These lessons are designed to promote respect for the dignity of the human person and virtuous living. Our goal in revising the curriculum was to equip teachers, parents/guardians, and students with knowledge that can help keep children and young people safe, while providing this instruction in a way that fosters the formation of Christian virtues. These revised lessons were developed by the Safe Environment Office of the Archdiocese, in consultation with professional educators and child safety experts. ***You will be notified by your child's teacher as to the date of the lesson. All grades will complete the lessons by , October 21<sup>st</sup>.***

The full lesson plans for each grade level can be reviewed online at <http://www.archny.org/childrens-curriculum/>. These lessons will cover such topics as internet safety, how to develop good boundaries in relationships, how to deal with uncomfortable or threatening situations, and how to get help from a trusted adult. The parent resources available on the website noted will enable you to reinforce the lessons your children have received, and to assure them of your support in their safety.

If you have any questions about the material presented in your child's Safe Environment lesson plan, please feel free to contact me at [geraldinelavery@gsschoolnyc.org](mailto:geraldinelavery@gsschoolnyc.org) ..

I thank you on behalf of the Good Shepherd School professional community, for the sacred trust you have given us in the care and protection of your children.

Sincerely,

Mrs. G. Lavery

Principal