

FAQ's About the FBC Cabot Minor Policy

Why are we enacting this new Minor Policy?

Statistics show that 1 out of 3 girls and 1 out of 5 boys will be sexually abused before they reach age 18*. Until recently, FBC Cabot did not have a formal written policy. Each area of ministry had some guidelines which sometimes contradicted each other. This policy will put in place a formal set of rules for us to follow to protect our children.

So, I won't be able to hug my students anymore?

False. Section II of the policy outlines appropriate physical boundaries.

I'm a volunteer, yet I drive my neighbor's children to church on Sunday or Wednesday. Do I have to have two non-related adults in the car?

The policy requires 2 non-related adults in the car. However, with written parental permission (text, e-mail, or letter) you may still drive them to/from church with one adult in the car.

I volunteer on Sunday morning with my spouse. Will I be separated from them because of the non-related 2-adult rule?

Check with your ministry leader. As long as there is another adult present in the area (floater) with visual and physical access to all areas you may still serve together.

How will I be able to give guidance and discipleship to my students?

It will be a little more challenging, but it is possible in a public space in view of others, rooms with windows (and other adults in view), or with another adult present.

I can't text or message with my students anymore?

You may text or message, however, the 2-adult rule applies. If you receive a text or message without another adult included, you should screen shot the initial message, create a new message to the minor, and include a second adult, with this response: "Hey (second adult), (minor) just messaged me asking about (this topic). Let's all talk about this."

*The Advocacy Center. "The Facts About Youth Sexual Abuse." Accessed February 21, 2014
http://www.theadvocacycenter.org/adv_abuse.html.