**Pre course tasks**

* Answer the questions below
* Download and watch the “Social Graces” video or read the information
	+ [Social Graces Video](https://safeguarding.chichester.anglican.org/documents/social-graces-video/)
	+ [Easy Read Handout](https://safeguarding.chichester.anglican.org/documents/social-ggrraaaacceessss-easy-read/)
* Read the case study in preparation for the session
1. **Identify** what has influenced your values and beliefs regarding safeguarding.

Please identify one thing that reflects what has influenced your individual connection with safeguarding and what your values and beliefs regarding safeguarding are based on. For example, this might be linked to song lyrics, nature or literature, or may depend on your own theology, religious scripture or teachings.

Please ensure this is sent to your trainer before the session. There will be an opportunity to reflect but you will not be asked to share personal experiences with the group. We will be reflecting on how our influences shape responses, values and beliefs regarding safeguarding.

**Examples**

Thomas Jefferson / Mahatma **Gandhi** “The true **measure of any society** can be found in how it treats its most vulnerable members.”

“Speak up for those who cannot speak for themselves, for the rights of all who are destitute. Speak up and judge fairly; defend the rights of the poor and needy.” (Proverbs 31:8).

Proverb: “It takes a village to raise a child.”

And you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength.’ The second is this: ‘You shall love your neighbour as yourself.’ There is no other commandment greater than these.” Mark 12:30-31 (English Standard Version)

1. **Reflect** on the questions below, which are designed to focus our minds on recognising, assessing, and managing risk.

Question 1

What has influenced, and therefore supports, your values and beliefs regarding safeguarding?

Question 2

On a scale of 0 to 10, where 0 is 'not at all confident’ and 10 is ‘extremely confident’, how confident are you in recognising and managing risk? What supports your score?

Question 3

What safeguarding risks exist in your own church? What are you worried about?

• What challenges have you experienced in managing a known safeguarding risk?

• How should these risks be managed or reduced? (And how are they managed or reduced?) What’s working well and what can we do to improve?

**Case Study – Please read before the session**

Setting

• Place: Anytown – a mid-size market town in an agricultural county. It has a population of around 15,000. There are no other towns nearby, just villages and farms. Anytown is the hub for services, shopping, education and leisure activities for a large, and mostly rural, surrounding area.

• Church: St Ethelburga’s – a mid-size church in the middle of Anytown. St Ethelburga’s has a congregation of around 80, including a small number of young people. A larger number of young people ‘hang around’ the church but don’t attend. Anytown does not have a youth club or anything similar. Several of the young ‘hangers-on’ have said they would attend a youth group if the church ran one.

Main characters

• Matthew (age 35): Matthew is the vicar. He has been at St Ethelburga’s for seven years, and it is his first post. The congregation had dwindled under the previous vicar, who had been there for 25 years until retirement, but Matthew has slowly been bringing people back since he arrived. Matthew would love to run a youth group himself but does not have time with his other commitments.

• Emma (age 33): Emma is Matthew’s wife. She runs the Sunday School and Messy Church, which have been very successful.

• Kate (age 27): Kate came back to the church following Matthew’s arrival. She runs a mother and toddler drop-in group which meets at the church on weekday mornings. Kate also helps Emma runs the Sunday School and Messy Church.

• Clive (age 67): Clive, a retired probation officer, is the parish safeguarding officer (PSO). He was appointed soon after Matthew’s arrival. Before Clive, the parish had not had a PSO for several years. Clive has worked closely with Matthew, Emma, Kate and others to get the parish’s safeguarding back ‘on track’ from where it was when he took over.

• Christopher (age 29): Christopher is an accountant. He’s very friendly and open and is currently single. He went to Bible college after school and has done some overseas mission work. He lives out of town and joined St Ethelburga’s three months ago. He gives the impression of being ‘in tune’ with the young people in the church as he has similar tastes in things like music and fashion.

Scene 1

Christopher has been going to almost every service at St Ethelburga’s since he arrived three months ago. He is popular, energetic, and seems very devout. He has been helping at tea and coffee mornings and has said he would love to join the worship band, which plays at the ‘contemporary’ service once a month (he plays guitar). He has been getting to know the young people in the church, chatting with them after the service, and knows the names of some of the other young people who hang around the church but don’t attend services. He has also got to know the wider congregation and appears to just be very friendly and engaging with everyone.