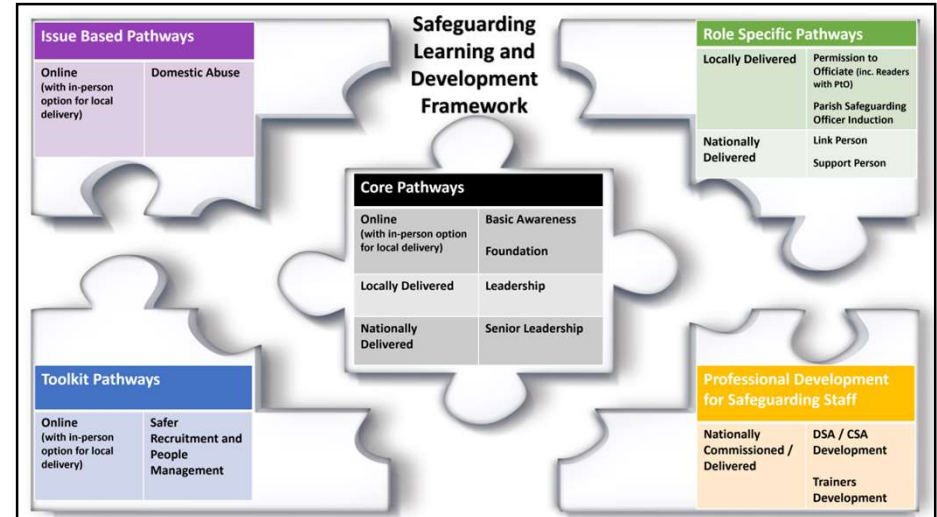




Safeguarding Basic Awareness


Welcome

1



2

Safeguarding Basic Awareness
Aims and Outcomes



Aims:

This course aims to provide learners with a basic awareness of safeguarding and enable them to integrate this into their Christian faith and the Church's ministry.

On completion, participants will be able to:

- Connect the core principles and practices of safeguarding to the Christian faith.
- Recognise issues of power and abuse as they present themselves in a range of contexts, including the church.
- Identify the barriers (emotional, psychological & theological) that can prevent the promotion of healthy church communities.
- Apply a clear process in the handling of concerns/safeguarding information whilst recognising the boundaries of their own role.

3

Safeguarding Basic Awareness
Course Overview



- 1 Safeguarding and the Christian faith
- 2 Safeguarding Abuse And Grooming
- 3 Safeguarding Scenarios
- 4 Responding individually and collectively
- 5 Assessed Scenario

4

Safeguarding Basic Awareness
Advance Warning and Guidance

THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND
NATIONAL SAFEGUARDING TEAM

Warning : This course may provoke strong feelings, reactions or concerns...

Take a break if you need to

Make use of help and support

Report any concerns you may have

5

Safeguarding Basic Awareness
Recognising our responsibility

THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND
NATIONAL SAFEGUARDING TEAM

Survivors
"As a survivor I need to see the church understand what happened, to **remember it correctly**, to **discern where responsibilities lay**, and to **integrate it into their history**. It is a really brave church community that decides to face such abuse head-on."

The vulnerable
"The Church is intended to be a place where men, women and children, including those who are vulnerable, find healing and wholeness."
(Protecting All God's Children, 2010)

6

Safeguarding Basic Awareness
The Church of England's response

THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND
NATIONAL SAFEGUARDING TEAM

- 1st Child Protection Policy 1997
- Diocesan Safeguarding Officers
- Diocesan Safeguarding Teams
- National Training Framework
- [Safeguarding: A safer church | The Church of England](#)

7

Safeguarding Basic Awareness
Promoting a safer church

THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND
NATIONAL SAFEGUARDING TEAM

Promoting a safer church
Safeguarding policy statement for children, young people and adults

6 overarching commitments

- Promoting a safe environment and culture.
- Safely recruiting and supporting all those with safeguarding responsibilities.
- Responding promptly to every safeguarding concern or allegation.
- Caring pastorally for victims/ survivors of abuse.
- Caring pastorally for those who are the subject of concerns or allegations of abuse.
- Responding to those that may present a risk to others.

8

Safeguarding Basic Awareness
Where do I fit in?

Part 1 - Safeguarding and the Christian Faith

9

Safeguarding Basic Awareness
What is Safeguarding?

HEALTH, WELLBEING AND HUMAN RIGHTS

Part 2 - Safeguarding: Abuse and Grievance

10

Safeguarding Basic Awareness
The scope of Safeguarding

BEYOND ABUSE AND RELATED CONCERNS

'acting in ways that mitigate any risk of harm'

POOR MENTAL HEALTH ?

HOMELESSNESS?

DEMENTIA?

Part 2 - Safeguarding: Abuse and Grievance

11

Safeguarding Basic Awareness
Who is responsible for safeguarding?

!! SAFEGUARDING IS EVERYONE'S RESPONSIBILITY !!

WE NEED AN AWARENESS OF THE ISSUES, AND NEED TO KNOW HOW TO ACT IF THERE ARE CONCERNS

WE ALL PLAY AN INTEGRAL ROLE IN DEVELOPING HEALTHY CHURCHES

Part 2 - Safeguarding: Abuse and Grievance

12

Safeguarding Basic Awareness
The Parish Safeguarding Officer

THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND
NATIONAL SAFEGUARDING TEAM

- ✓ Advise within the parish on all safeguarding matters.
- ✓ Receive *any* concerns about children or adults.
- ✓ Seek advice from the Diocese and/or statutory bodies.
- ✓ Make referrals.
- ✓ Undertaking parish safeguarding assessments.
- ✓ Promoting safe practice.
- ✓ Record keeping.

Part 2 - Safeguarding: Abuse and Grievance

13

Safeguarding Basic Awareness
What is Abuse?

THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND
NATIONAL SAFEGUARDING TEAM

Consider the following two lists. Reflect for a moment on the key differences between the paired items.


- A heated argument.....Threatening behaviour
- Healthy sexual activity.....Sexual assault
- A 'strong' leader.....A domineering bully
- Disciplining a child.....Emotional abuse
- A legal power of attorney.....Financial abuse
- Marital strife.....Domestic abuse

Part 2 - Safeguarding: Abuse and Grievance

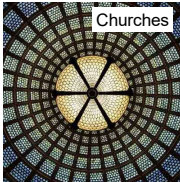
14

Safeguarding Basic Awareness
Where does abuse happen?


THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND
NATIONAL SAFEGUARDING TEAM




Private Homes




Churches




Residential or day care settings



School or Work



Hospitals



Online & in public places

Part 2 - Safeguarding: Abuse and Grievance

15

Safeguarding Basic Awareness
How might I find out about abuse?

THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND
NATIONAL SAFEGUARDING TEAM

- ✓ Someone tells you what has happened or you witness abuse directly.
- ✓ Injury or behaviour consistent with abuse or intention to abuse.
- ✓ Abuse is disclosed by someone else who knows the Person affected.
- ✓ A disclosure regarding an offender is made to you.
- ✓ Indications of abuse are seen in artwork, play or creative writing.
- ✓ Abusive posts or grooming behaviour over the internet.
- ✓ Anonymous sources tell of abuse
- ✓ Through accidents that happen to a child or adult.
- ✓ Suspicion is raised of radicalisation or human trafficking.

Part 2 - Safeguarding: Abuse and Grievance

16

Safeguarding Basic Awareness
What about confidentiality?

THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND
NATIONAL SAFEGUARDING TEAM

1) If someone is at risk of significant harm, or of harming others.
2) If a crime has been or may have been committed.

It is not a breach of confidentiality to seek advice and guidance from the Safeguarding Officer.

GDPR and the Data Protection Act 2018 are not barriers to justified information sharing.

When in doubt about the sharing of safeguarding information, please consult a Safeguarding Officer or equivalent in your setting.

Part 2 - Safeguarding: Abuse and Governance

17

Safeguarding Basic Awareness
Forms of abuse

THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND
NATIONAL SAFEGUARDING TEAM

- NEGLECT
- DOMESTIC ABUSE
- PHYSICAL ABUSE
- SEXUAL ABUSE
- FINANCIAL ABUSE
- MODERN SLAVERY
- EMOTIONAL ABUSE
- SELF NEGLECT
- DISCRIMINATORY ABUSE
- ORGANISATIONAL ABUSE
- COERCIVE CONTROL
- SPIRITUAL ABUSE

Part 2 - Safeguarding: Abuse and Governance

18

Safeguarding Basic Awareness
Grooming

THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND
NATIONAL SAFEGUARDING TEAM

"Grooming is when someone builds an emotional connection with a child or adult to gain their trust for the purposes of committing abuse"
NSPCC

Offenders use:
Authority
Trust
Physical Force or Threats

To gain:
Access
Control

In order to:
Abuse

From 'The Child Safeguarding Policy Guide for Churches and Ministries' (2017) by Basyle Tchividjian and Shira M. Berkovits.

Part 2 - Safeguarding: Abuse and Governance

19

Safeguarding Basic Awareness
Scenarios - Conclusions

THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND
NATIONAL SAFEGUARDING TEAM

!! If in doubt, report !!

- Make a note of your observations.
- Maintain a relationship with the affected person.
- Report to the Safeguarding Officer.
- Inform the church leader (Priest/Vicar/Minister).

Part 3 - Safeguarding: Scenarios

20

Safeguarding Basic Awareness
Pause and reflect

THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND
NATIONAL SAFEGUARDING TEAM

Take the opportunity to have a break and digest the content of this courses far.

- ☞ What has been the most significant aspect the course so far?
- ☞ How have the issues raised challenged your faith?
- ☞ Have they highlighted anything in particular in your own community?
- ☞ Is there any action you need to take?

Part 3 - Safeguarding: Essentials

21

Safeguarding Basic Awareness
Why do we struggle to respond well?

THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND
NATIONAL SAFEGUARDING TEAM

FEAR

- Ridicule, false accusations, 'crying wolf' or making a fuss.
- Political correctness.
- Convincing ourselves wait, Or that it is someone else's job.

Responding well is not an easy thing to do... Safeguarding involves dealing with uncertainty... We are all vulnerable to these dynamics...

Part 2 - Safeguarding: Individuality and Professionalism

22

Safeguarding Basic Awareness
Safeguarding and forgiveness

THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND
NATIONAL SAFEGUARDING TEAM

In the cases of abuse in the church, a superficial understanding of forgiveness has been applied in the absence of other responses that promote accountability.

Forgiveness is NOT the opposite of justice

- Biblical forgiveness does not silence victims
- Victims need support and encouragement
- Accountability is needed for perpetrators

Forgiveness does NOT remove the need to protect the vulnerable

- Don't give opportunity for further abuse
- Struggle with sin is real
- Perpetrators of abuse are still a risk to others

Forgiveness is NOT the same as pretending bad things have not happened

- The Gospel = grace and truth
- Sin is forgiven, not hidden away

Part 2 - Safeguarding: Individuality and Professionalism

23

Safeguarding Basic Awareness
How to respond to disclosure - the 4 R's

THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND
NATIONAL SAFEGUARDING TEAM

Recognise → Respond → Record → Refer

Recognise

- ✓ Accept and take seriously what is being said without displaying shock or disbelief.
- ✓ Let the person tell their story and don't push for information or ask leading questions.
- ✗ Do not interrogate or decide if they are telling the truth.
- ✓ Be alert to signs and symptoms of abuse.

Respond

- ✓ Reassure the individual they have taken the right step in sharing this information and they are not to blame.
- ✓ Be honest: never make promises to keep what you are being told confidential. If abuse is involved, you will need to tell someone.
- ✓ Tell them what you will do with the information they have shared and that they will be kept informed.
- ✗ Do not introduce personal information or from either your own experience or that of others.
- ✗ Do not investigate the matter any further for yourself, or approach the person about whom allegations may have been made.

Record

- ✓ Write down, concisely, exactly what is seen, said or heard and make clear where you have added your views or interpretation.

You may find it helpful to use the 4 W's, as follows:

- WHO was involved? Name the key people
- WHAT happened? Facts not opinions
- WHEN did it happen? Date and time
- WHO have you referred the issue on to?

Refer

- ✓ Pass the information to the Safeguarding Lead or Diocesan Safeguarding Advisor in your setting within 24 hours
- ✓ In case of an emergency call the Police or dial 999.

Part 2 - Safeguarding: Individuality and Professionalism

24

Safeguarding Basic Awareness
A note about self-care

THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND
NATIONAL SAFEGUARDING TEAM

Receiving information about someone else's abuse can be very distressing for the listener for a number of reasons.

- ⚡ They can't believe that this could happen to anyone. ⚡
- ⚡ It can't possibly be true because the alleged perpetrator is such a nice person. ⚡
- ⚡ The disclosure may trigger similar personal and painful memories. ⚡

We need to recognise that it is normal to feel this way when listening to a disclosure of abuse, and to be able to access support for ourselves if and when we need it.

Part 4 - Responding Individually and Collectively

25

Safeguarding Basic Awareness
Take - aways

THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND
NATIONAL SAFEGUARDING TEAM

Handout "Who's who in your setting?"

Handout "Theological Reflection"

Part 4 - Responding Individually and Collectively

26

Safeguarding Basic Awareness
Take - aways

THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND
NATIONAL SAFEGUARDING TEAM

Where is this poster in your church or other church building?

Promoting a safer church

The care and protection of children, young people and adults involved in church activities is the responsibility of everyone who participates in the life of the Church.

House of Bishops Safeguarding Policy for children, young people & adults

OUR COMMITMENTS

- Promoting a safer environment and culture
- Recruiting and supporting all those with any disability related to children and vulnerable adults
- Responding promptly to every safeguarding concern
- Care for victims, claimants/survivors of abuse and other affected persons
- Carrying out our duties as the subject of our own safeguarding policies and other affected persons
- Responding to those who may pose a present risk.

HELP LINES

- NSPCC: 0800 300300
- Childline: 0800 1111
- Samaritans: 116 123
- Family Line: 0800 800 2222
- National Domestic Violence Helpline: 0800 202227
- Elder Abuse: 0800 808 8141

IF THERE IS AN EMERGENCY: 999 OR 112
PLEASE CONTACT THE POLICE OR 999.

Part 4 - Responding Individually and Collectively

27

Safeguarding Basic Awareness
Summary and Conclusions

THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND
NATIONAL SAFEGUARDING TEAM

Awareness of and commitment to safeguarding

Connect the Christian faith and safeguarding

Recognise patterns of power and abuse

Identify the barriers to safeguarding

Apply a clear process to handling concerns

REMEMBER: SAFEGUARDING IS EVERYONES RESPONSIBILITY - We all have a role to play in the this "Gospel work".

Part 4 - Responding Individually and Collectively

28