

Safeguarding provision for visiting groups of bellringers

Visiting bell ringers are responsible for their own safeguarding, but can expect the church they are visiting to seek assurance of this and this is the purpose of these guidelines. Note that these visits are not regulated activities, unless part of a residential event. However, the Central Council of Church Bell Ringers advice is that groups containing under 18s / vulnerable adults contain two DBS checked adults.

It is traditional for visiting ringers to sign the tower Visitors Book which is dated. The visitors give their name and the church they are affiliated to. This should be a sufficient record of their visit, but the visiting group will also make and retain a full list of ringers and non-ringers on the outing.

Any safeguarding concerns arising from the visit will be dealt with via the visitors' own safeguarding procedures UNLESS it involves a member of your church, in which case your PSO will also be informed.

Visitors are usually let into the church by one of your own bellringers. You should ensure that this is NOT an unaccompanied young person or vulnerable adult.

Name of visiting group

Name and contact details of organiser.....

.....

Date of visit

Questions to ask

1. Have you advised the leader of the requirement to make and retain a list of ringers and non-ringers on the outing? **Yes / No**
2. Does the visiting group contain any known offenders against children or vulnerable adults ?
No: Proceed to question 3
Yes: The visiting group will contact your Diocesan Safeguarding Lead who will determine if that person can be included in the visit.
3. Does the visiting group contain under 18s or vulnerable adults (whether ringing or not)?
No: No further action required
Yes: Proceed to question 4
4. Is the outing organised by a named Church of England church group of ringers?
No: Proceed to question 5
Yes: The group should confirm that they are following the Safeguarding policy of their own Parish.

Name of Parish

Confirmation given **Yes / No**

If no, proceed to page 3.

5. Is the outing organised by a named ringing Guild or Association? This can be based on a Diocese (e.g. Guildford Guild), county (e.g. Kent County Association of Change Ringers), an interest group (e.g. the Society of Roving Ringers) or Guild young ringers' group e.g. Sussex Young Ringers, Surrey Strikers.

No: Proceed to page 3

Yes: The group should confirm that they are following the Safeguarding policy of their own Guild, available on the Guild website.

Name of Guild / Association

Confirmation given **Yes / No**

If no, proceed to next page 3

**Safeguarding visiting bellringers who are *not part of a recognised group*, but
have young people or vulnerable adults in the group**

**The Parochial Church Council of Parish Church has a
Policy for Safeguarding Children, Young People and Vulnerable Adults. A copy is attached.
Your permission to ring is conditional upon you complying with this
You are required to ensure that children, young people and vulnerable adults are protected
at all times, by taking all reasonable steps to prevent injury, loss or damage occurring; and
that you carry full liability insurance for this.**

In particular this means that:

- you will comply with the attached good practice guide with children and young people or vulnerable adults.
- you will adopt our current parish safeguarding policy;
- you will always have at least two leaders over the age of 18 years in any group of children and young people, no matter how small the group; No person under the age of 18 years will be left in charge of any children or young people of any age;
- no child or group of children or young people should be left unattended at any time;
- a register of children, young people or vulnerable adults attending the activity will be kept securely by yourself. This will include details of their name, contact details of parent/guardian/carer etc., date of birth and next of kin; a list of adults present will also be kept.
- you will immediately (within 24 hours) inform the Parish Safeguarding Officer of:
the occurrence of any incidents or allegations of abuse or causes of concern relating to members or leaders of your organisation, and contact details for the person in your organisation who is dealing with it

The Parish Safeguarding Officer for Church is:

Name:

E-mail: **Tel. No:**

Declaration

I agree to abide by appropriate safeguarding procedures. I understand that my use of the tower may be terminated in the event of my failing to comply with these procedures.

Signed **Designation**

Organisation **Date**

Contact details

Please sign two copies, one to be retained by the church, and one by the organisation