

Diocese of Bristol
Parish of St Mary's, Purton, Wiltshire

**Safeguarding Children, Young People and Vulnerable Adults:
Policy and Procedure**

“Every person has a value and dignity which comes directly from their creation in God’s own image and likeness. Christians have a duty to value, understand and respect the rights of children and adults as people of faith in the life of the church.”
Diocese of Bristol Safeguarding Policy, 2018

1. Policy Context

In developing this policy, the parish of St Mary’s Purton commits to following the safeguarding policies of the Church of England, safeguarding policy and guidance as issued by the Diocese of Bristol and commits to working within legislation and statutory guidance as related to the Safeguarding of Children, Young People and Adults.

The main relevant policies and guidance documents are:

Church of England:

Protecting all God’s Children, 2010 Promoting a Safe Church, 2006
Promoting a Safer Church – Policy Statement, 2017
Safer Environment and Activities, 2019 Safeguarding Records Joint Practice
Guidance, 2015 Safeguarding Records Retention Tool Kit, 2015
General Statement on Safeguarding Children in Towers, 2015

These documents can be found on the Church of England website here:

<https://www.churchofengland.org/safeguarding/promoting-safer-church/policy-practice-guidance>

The above are being reviewed and revised and will eventually be found in the e-manual referenced below

Declaration of Conflict of Interest

Responding Well to Victims and Survivors of Abuse

Safeguarding Children, Young People and Vulnerable Adults

Safeguarding Learning and Development Framework

Safeguarding in Religious Communities

Safer Recruitment and People Management

Ukrainian Refugees

Safer Recruitment and people management guidance 2021

These documents can be found on the Church of England website here:

<https://www.churchofengland.org/safeguarding/safeguarding-e-manual/safer-recruitment-and-people-management-guidance>

Diocese of Bristol:

Safeguarding Policy, 2018

Allegations Management Procedure, 2018

Ministering to those who may present a risk, 2018

Safer Recruitment Guidance and Toolkit, 2017

These documents can all be found on the Diocese of Bristol website:

<https://www.bristol.anglican.org/aboutus/safeguarding/safeguardingresources/safeguardingresources.php>

Statutory Guidance:

Working Together 2018: This guidance from the Department for Education describes safeguarding processes and the safeguards that every organisation must have in place, including faith organisations, when safeguarding children. See the guidance at <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/working-together-to-safeguard-children--2>

Care and Support Statutory Guidance 2023: This is guidance from the Department of Health which describes safeguarding processes for adults and the responsibilities of different organisations: and can be found:-

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/care-act-statutory-guidance/care-and-support-statutory-guidance>

2. Policy Statement

It is the responsibility of all members of the parish of St Mary's Purton to give paramount importance to the nurture and care of children, young people and vulnerable adults, in a safe and secure environment. It is about preventing harm to children and adults wherever possible.

In accordance with the Church of England Safeguarding Policy our church is committed to:

- Promoting a safer environment and culture.
- Safely recruiting and supporting all those with any responsibility related to children, young people and vulnerable adults within the church.
- Responding promptly to every safeguarding concern or allegation.
- Caring pastorally for victims/survivors of abuse and other affected persons.
- Caring pastorally for those who are the subject of concerns or allegations of abuse and other affected persons; and
- Responding to those that may pose a present risk to others.

We recognise that:

- The welfare of the child, young person or vulnerable adult is paramount.
- Everyone has different levels of vulnerability and each of us may be regarded as vulnerable at some time in our lives.
- All children, young people and adults who may be vulnerable (regardless of age, disability, gender, marriage and civil partnership, pregnancy, maternity, race, religion or belief, sex or sexual orientation) have the right to equal protection from all types of harm or abuse which can occur in all families and communities.
- Working in partnership with children, young people, vulnerable adults and their parents, carers and other agencies is essential in promoting their welfare.

The Parish (Parochial Church Council) will:

- Create a safe and caring place for all.
- Have a named Parish Safeguarding Officer (PSO) to work with the incumbent, Revd. Ian Tweedie-Smith and the Parochial Church Council to implement policy and procedures.
- Safely recruit, train and support all those with any responsibility for children, young people and adults to have the confidence and skills to recognise and respond to abuse in line with the Church of England Safer Recruitment Practice Guidance, 2023 and provide ongoing supervision, support and training. (See Section regarding recruitment in the e-manual, link above)
- Ensure that there is appropriate insurance cover for all activities involving children and adults undertaken in the name of the parish.
- Display in church premises and on the Parish website the details of who to contact if there are safeguarding concerns or support needs.
- Listen to and take seriously all those who disclose abuse.
- Take steps to protect children and adults when a safeguarding concern of any kind arises, following House of Bishops guidance, including notifying the Diocesan Safeguarding Adviser (DSA) and statutory agencies immediately.
- Offer support to victims/survivors of abuse regardless of the type of abuse, when or where it occurred.
- Care for and monitor any member of the church community who may pose a risk to children and adults whilst maintaining appropriate confidentiality and the safety of all parties.
- Ensure that health and safety policy, procedures and risk assessments are in place and that these are reviewed annually.
- Review the implementation of the Safeguarding Policy, Procedures and Practices at least annually.

3. Who is a child, young person, adult who may be vulnerable?

Children and young people: for the purposes of this policy, means anyone under the age of 18 years. Children and young people may be abused by an adult or child, male or female. It is far more common for a child or young person to be abused by a person known to them than by a stranger. This could be a parent, family member, friend, teacher, minister or anyone else. Children may be abused in person or via electronic media, they may experience harm as a result of seeing or hearing the abuse of others.

Where conflicts of interest arise between the welfare of the child and that of adults, the child's wellbeing must always be of paramount importance and priority.

Adults who may be vulnerable:

This is currently under review and this section may be amended at the next policy review, for the time being we will consider vulnerability as described below.

The Care Act 2014 defines an adult to whom statutory safeguarding duties apply as an adult who:

- *Has needs for care and support (whether or not the Local Authority is meeting any of these needs)*
- *Is experiencing, or at risk of abuse or neglect*
- *As a result of those care and support needs is unable to protect themselves from either the risk of or the experience of abuse or neglect.*

(Care and Support Statutory Guidance, 2016)

The definition may apply to anyone 18 years old and over who may not be able to protect themselves from abuse, harm or exploitation, which may be by reason of illness, physical, sensory or learning disability or impairment, mental illness, use of drugs or alcohol. Increased vulnerability may be temporary or permanent and may be visible or invisible.

An adult may be abused or neglected by family (including spouses, parents and children), friends, carers (paid and unpaid), strangers and professionals and members of the community. Those at risk may live alone or may live with family or in a care setting e.g. residential home.

4. What is abuse and neglect?

Please see the table attached as **Appendix 2** This outlines the forms of abuse noted in legislation related to safeguarding children, young people and adults alongside some examples and potential indicators that abuse, or neglect may be occurring.

5. What to do if you are concerned that abuse or neglect may be happening

You may see or hear something of concern or someone may tell you something of concern (a disclosure). If a child, young person or adult tells you that they have experienced abuse, are experiencing abuse or are concerned that they may be at risk:

Do	Don't
Listen. Try to move to a quiet space if possible	Tell them to speak to someone else
Let the person talk at their own pace and say what they want to say. If you need to clarify points ask open questions like: Tell me.. what happened, Explain ... about the incident	Investigate. Ask leading questions e.g. why did they do that, was it 'name', did it hurt you?

Describe ...where it was , what happened	
Take it seriously	Try not to react as though unbelieving or shocked
Reassure. Confirm they are doing the right thing by telling you.	Tell them not to tell stories
Tell them you need to share the concern with the right people e.g. Parish Safeguarding Officer, police, social care	Promise to keep a secret or tell people who don't need to know.
Record what was said and the facts as accurately as possible as soon as possible	Try to just remember it
	Contact the person the allegation is about

Whether a child, young person or adult has shared a concern with you or you have seen or heard something of concern...

If the situation is urgent i.e. there is an imminent risk of harm: contact the police on 101 or 999 as appropriate or contact the Local Authority Children or Adults safeguarding Teams:

Contact the Local Authority that the person you are concerned about lives in

Note: Anyone can report a concern directly to police or the Local Authority at any time.

CHILDREN (Under 18 years)

Swindon Borough Council Non emergencies

office hours: Monday-Thursday 8.30am-4.40pm & Friday 8.30am-4.00pm Telephone: 01793 466903 and choose option 2 or Email: swindonmash@swindon.gov.uk

Non emergencies (out of office hours) Call 101

Out of hours The Emergency Duty Service (EDS) provides an emergency contact point for all aspects of social work in Swindon outside normal office hours. This includes cover during the night, weekends and bank holidays.

The EDS is available on 01793 43669

Wiltshire Council

If you think a child or young person is at significant risk of harm or is injured contact the Integrated Front Door (IFD) 8:45am to 5pm Monday to Thursday, 08:45am to 4pm Friday. 0300 4560108 or Out of Hours 0300 4560100

ADULTS (over 18 years old)

Swindon Borough Council

Office Hours Monday to Friday inclusive, 8.30am to 5.00pm 01793 463555 E-mail: adultsafeguarding@swindon.gov.uk

Out of Office Hours Emergency Duty Service

For reporting safeguarding concerns that require urgent action-01793 436699
<https://safeguardingpartnership.swindon.gov.uk/info/13/adults>

Wiltshire Council

Office Hours Monday to Thursday, 8.30am-5.20pm Friday 8.30am-4.20pm Adult Multi Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH) 0300 456 0111

Email: adviceandcontact@wiltshire.gov.uk

Out of Office Hours If you need urgent help or advice 0300 456 0100

Once you have sought advice from police or the Local Authority and the situation is made safe, inform the Parish Safeguarding Officer as soon as possible of the concern and actions taken; provide a written record of this. If the concern is about the Parish Safeguarding Officer contact the Incumbent or Diocesan Safeguarding Adviser.

If the situation is of concern but is not urgent: Contact the Parish Safeguarding Officer to report the concern and provide a written record (if the concern is about the Parish Safeguarding Officer contact the Incumbent or Diocesan Safeguarding Adviser). They will decide with you whether to discuss with the child, their parents or carers or the adult and any carers and whether a referral to the Local Authority Children or Adults Safeguarding Team is needed or any other action.

Parish Safeguarding Officers

Marie Dempsey: 07455046815

Email: safeguarding@stmaryspurton.org.uk

Incumbent

Ian Tweedie Smith 01793 770077 or in an Emergency 01793 773031

Diocesan Safeguarding Advisor

Adam Bond 0117 906 0100 adam.bond@bristoldiocese.org

Out of Hours: **thirtyone:eight (an independent Christian Charity)**

0303 003 11 11 (say you are from the parish of St Mary's, Purton, Wilts in the Diocese of Bristol)

Not sure whether to report a concern? Please do! It is better to report something that you didn't need to than to stay quiet about something that turns out to be important.

The Parish of St Mary's, Purton hopes that all will follow this policy but where there is any concern that an issue has not been reported and should be or any reluctance to inform the church of an incident the parish of St Mary's, Purton wishes to make clear that the most important point is that those concerns are reported to the appropriate authority so that they can be acted upon where needed.

If there is an allegation that a person in a position of trust (minister, PCC member, staff member or volunteer) has abused or neglected a child or adult or that such a person may present a risk to a child or adult: The Diocese of Bristol 'Allegations Management Procedure' will be followed (copies of this procedure can be found on the Diocesan website² and copies are held by the Parish Safeguarding Officers, Clergy and in the Parish Safeguarding File). In brief this procedure requires that:

- The concern should be reported as above; report should reach police and Local Authority within 1 working day.
- The concern should not be made known to the person against whom the allegation is raised without agreement with police and or the Local Authority.

- Next steps will be decided in conjunction with police, Local Authority representatives (including the Designated Officer where there is a concern for the welfare of a child), the Diocesan Safeguarding Adviser and parish representatives (usually PSO, Incumbent and Churchwardens).

If a person is identified who has a caution or conviction for abuse of children and or adults who may pose a risk to others: (usually those with convictions for sexual or violent offences) the Diocese of Bristol guidance 'Ministering to those who may pose a risk' (Copies of this guidance can be found on the Diocesan website² and copies are held by the Parish Safeguarding Officers, Clergy and in the Parish Safeguarding File) will be followed. In brief this guidance advises that that Parish Safeguarding Officer and Diocesan Safeguarding Adviser are made aware and that the individual is informed that:

- To support their being part of the congregation as safely as possible, contact will be made with police, probation and other agencies connected with their case.
- The Diocesan Safeguarding Adviser and Church leaders will need to know of their circumstances.
- That a risk assessment will need to be completed
- And that a written agreement will be needed between the individual and the Church which agrees when the individual will or will not be involved in church services and activities, boundaries of behaviour and support offered.

[2https://www.bristol.anglican.org/aboutus/safeguarding/safeguardingresources/safeguardingresources.php](https://www.bristol.anglican.org/aboutus/safeguarding/safeguardingresources/safeguardingresources.php)

6. Confidentiality and consent

Confidentiality: The parish of St Mary's, Purton accepts the principle that only those with a need to know should be made aware of safeguarding concerns or other confidential information. All staff, ministers and volunteers are expected to share confidential information appropriately and to ensure that written records and verbal information is shared responsibly and stored securely.

Consent: The parish of St Mary's, Purton accepts that all people have a right to make their own views and wishes known and that these wishes should be followed wherever possible.

Children: Where there is a concern that a child is experiencing or at risk of abuse or neglect they may ask those that know not to tell anyone. The parish of St Mary's, Purton accepts that we cannot do this; these concerns must be reported to the appropriate authorities to enable the child or young person to receive appropriate help and support. The parish of St Mary's, Purton asks all staff, ministers and volunteers to explain this to children in their care when appropriate. Where there is concern that a child is experiencing or is at risk of abuse or neglect. The parish of St Mary's, Purton expects that parents and carers will be communicated with and will have their consent sought for information to be shared with the Local Authority or

other agencies. This should happen except where there is concern that to do so would place a child at increased risk or where a parent or carer may be involved in the sexual abuse of the child. In those circumstances advice of the Local Authority or police should be sought before informing the parents or carers of the concern. Where the allegation is against an individual who may have access to other children or vulnerable adults the referral should be made without seeking consent from parents or carers - how they are made aware of the concerns will be decided alongside statutory agencies.

Adults: Adults have the right to make their own decisions about their lives. Consent should be sought from an adult before information is shared about them. However, where an adult withholds consent for a safeguarding concern to be shared with statutory authorities (police and local authority), this should be accepted except where there may be others at risk (e.g. is the abuse or neglect is happening in a care home or hospital or the abuser has access to other vulnerable adults or children) or where there is reason to doubt that the individual has capacity to make that decision or where there is imminent risk of serious harm. Advice should be sought from statutory services (Adult social care or police) or the Diocesan Safeguarding Adviser where there is any doubt as to whether a concern should be referred.

7. Record Keeping

Records of all safeguarding concerns will be kept by the Parish Safeguarding Officers. They will keep a record of the initial concern and all actions taken. The records will be securely held in a double locked filing cabinet in the Vicarage. All those involved with any safeguarding concern must ensure that they provide to the Safeguarding Officer any records they may have that relate to that case for secure storage.

Records will be retained as per Church of England guidance 'Safeguarding Records: Joint Practice Guidance for the Church of England and the Methodist Church' 2015³ (Available on the Diocese of Bristol website).

The parish of St Mary's, Purton does not have access to secure email systems. Therefore, great care should be taken where email is used to ensure that confidential information is not open to being accessed by unauthorised individuals. Individual's confidential information should not be communicated via email (e.g. any information should not make the individual identifiable by name, address etc.).

Records must be maintained of staff and volunteer training and DBS checks. These will be maintained by the Parish Safeguarding Officer & Parish DBS checker.

8. Safer Recruitment and ongoing support and supervision

All recruitment of staff and volunteers will be undertaken in line with Church of England policy 'Safer Recruitment, 2016⁴'. (See Section 8-Safer Recruitment and ongoing Support & Supervision page 10 of this policy and Appendix 3 Purton Parish Safer Recruitment – Application Status Tracker & Appendix 4 Purton Parish Safer Recruitment DBS Check Status Tracker)

Recruitment of staff and volunteers will only be undertaken by those delegated such responsibility from PCC.

Recruitment of staff and volunteers will only be undertaken according to agreed process.

All recruited staff and volunteers will be made known to PCC.

No one who has not been safely recruited will be permitted to work unsupervised with children, young people or adults who may be vulnerable.

In brief: All staff and volunteers will:

- Have all recruitment checks completed and approved prior to starting in role.

[3https://www.bristol.anglican.org/documents/safeguarding-records-practice-guidance/](https://www.bristol.anglican.org/documents/safeguarding-records-practice-guidance/)
[4https://www.bristol.anglican.org/documents/c-e-safer-recruitment-2016/](https://www.bristol.anglican.org/documents/c-e-safer-recruitment-2016/)

- All eligible staff and volunteers will have a repeat DBS disclosure **every 3 years**. Any lapsed DBS check will require the post holder to stand down until the check has been completed.
- Attend safeguarding training as required by the Church of England⁵
- Attend any other training as decided by the PCC
- Have a named supervisor

8. Roles and Responsibilities

Name	Responsibilities
Parochial Church Council (PCC)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Agree, implement, monitor and review annually this safeguarding policy and all associated policies • Ensure all staff and volunteers are recruited safely • Agree and implement supporting good practice guidance and processes • Ensure adequate insurance for all activities • Recruit and provide adequate support to Parish Safeguarding Officers • Ensure all staff and volunteers are adequately trained and supervised
Parish Safeguarding Officer (PSO)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Respond to all safeguarding allegations and concerns according to policy and guidance • Monitor and report to PCC regarding adherence to policy and practice • Arrange safeguarding training and maintain records
Incumbent	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Act as a point of contact should there be any safeguarding allegation or concern regarding a PSO
Church Wardens	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Take part in the allegations management procedure when required • Take part in an 'agreement' as per 'ministering to those that may present a risk'
Activity Leaders	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Follow the Safeguarding policy and associated good practice guidance • Ensure that activities are run according to good practice guidance • Report any safeguarding concerns as per policy

⁵ [Training and development practice guidance, 2019](#)

Name	Responsibilities
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure all volunteers are safely recruited • Ensure all volunteers have in date training and DBS check as required • Ensure all new volunteers receive agreed induction • Supervise agreed volunteers
Staff and Volunteers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Follow the safeguarding policy and associated good practice guidance • Report any safeguarding concern as per policy
Church members	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Be aware of the safeguarding and associated policies • Report any concerns as per policy

10. Additional Related Policies

Photographs and videos

To be read alongside Appendix 6

It is the policy of The parish of St Mary’s, Purton that no one should take photographs of children, young people or Vulnerable Adults without the written consent of that child’s parent or carer and the consent of that child where they are old enough to give consent.

Where photographs are to be taken consent will be gained from parents and carers in advance, using the agreed form. This will stipulate: who will take photos, for what purpose they may be used, how they will be stored and after what period they will be destroyed.

All photos and videos taken for The parish of St Mary’s, Purton should be stored securely on devices belonging to PCC. No photo or video should be left stored on personal photography or videography equipment.

No photo will be taken, shared or used for any purpose which shows a child in any state of undress.

Children will not be named in publicity related to photographs or video.

Where an event may be photographed and is open to the public; signs will be displayed noting that photographs and or video may be taken and inviting anyone not wishing to be in any photos or video used to make this known to a named person. The photographer/ videographer will be named on these signs and will wear ID.

Only those delegated with that responsibility by PCC may ask for parental consent and arrange the taking of any photo or video.

Communications and Social Media

It is the policy of The parish of St Mary's, Purton that no one employed on a paid or voluntary basis, serving as a PCC member or as a licenced minister will contact children or young people directly via social media, email, phone or text without the knowledge and consent of that child or young person's parent or carer.

Where such contact needs to be made (for example a text to advise of a change of time for an activity) the child's parent or carer will be asked for consent in advance and a second adult e.g. Parish Safeguarding Officer or Incumbent will be copied into that communication.

Very rarely contact may be made with a child or young person without the knowledge of the child's parents or carers (for example where there are serious safeguarding concerns for a child, and it would increase the risk to the child to contact the parent). In this case the person making contact with the child must agree in advance with the Parish Safeguarding Officer that this is appropriate, a second adult should be copied into all communications e.g. Parish Safeguarding Officer or Incumbent and a record must be kept of all communications and provided to the Parish Safeguarding Officer for the case record.

Where a group wishes to have a social media account to publicise or communicate regarding their group or activity the following will apply:

- The account shall not be a personal account belonging to any group member or leader; it will be a separate group account.
- More than one adult will be administrator for the account so that all content and messages can be seen by more than one adult.
- All users will be made aware that bullying, harassment or other anti social behaviour will not be tolerated. Information will be available to all users about how to raise a concern about the conduct of others and who with.
- Steps must be taken to prevent people outside the group having access to the names or personal details of anyone who is part of the group e.g. if a group Facebook page is used, the account settings should prevent group members being identified and any message sent to anyone other than the administrator.
- All those in a leadership role will ensure that their language is professional and appropriate e.g. not adding 'xx' to messages, not using nicknames that are not what the leader is called by everyone else, avoiding addressing others by endearments which would be ambiguous, such as 'love'.
- Further advice and information regarding online safety is available from the Diocese Safeguarding Team.

See Appendix 6 for policy regarding video and live streaming

Hire of Church Premises for non Church events and activities (whether a fee is chargeable or not)

Organisations and individual users meeting at St Mary's church, Purton will be expected to adhere to this safeguarding policy or where they work regularly with

children, young people or adults who may be vulnerable, to have their own safeguarding policy.

The parish of St Mary's, Purton is responsible for overseeing users and ensuring that that agreed hire process and forms are in use. This will include obtaining a copy of the hirers safeguarding policy where relevant and providing a copy of this policy.

11. Policy implementation and Review

This policy is agreed by the Parish of **St Mary's, Purton PCC** on **31st July 2023**

All staff, volunteers and ministers are required to abide by this policy and associated good practice guidance.

This policy will be made available on the Church website; a copy will be available in each church building.

This policy will be monitored via annual audit and annual report to PCC

This policy is to be reviewed annually.

Next Review Due: July 2024

Appendix 1: Useful Contact numbers

The parish of **St Mary's Purton** is committed to the Safeguarding of children, young people and adults who may be vulnerable. Our church policy can be found on the churches noticeboard or on our church website.

If the situation is urgent/an emergency

i.e. there is an imminent risk of harm: contact the police on 101 or 999 as appropriate or contact the Local Authority Children or Adults safeguarding Teams

Contact the Local Authority that the person you are concerned about lives in **CHILDREN (Under 18 years)**

Swindon Borough Council

Non emergencies office hours: Monday-Thursday 8.30am-4.40pm & Friday 8.30am-4.00pm

Telephone: 01793 466903

Email: swindonmash@swindon.gov.uk

Non emergencies (out of office hours) Call 101

Wiltshire Council

Office hours [Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub \(MASH\)](#) 0300 456 0108 **Out of Office Hours 0300 456 0100**

ADULTS (over 18 years old)

Swindon Borough Council

Office Hours Monday to Friday inclusive, 8.30am to 5.00pm 01793 463555 E-mail:

adultsafeguarding@swindon.gov.uk

Out of Office Hours Emergency Duty Service

For reporting safeguarding concerns that require urgent action-01793 436699

Wiltshire Council

Office Hours Monday to Thursday, 8.30am-5.20pm Friday 8.30am-4.20pm Adult Multi Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH) 0300 456 0111

Email: adviceandcontact@wiltshire.gov.uk

Out of Office Hours If you need urgent help or advice 0300 456 0100 Police: 999 (emergency) or 101 (non-emergency)

If it is not urgent/an emergency

Inform the Parish Safeguarding Officer of your concern. **Our Parish Safeguarding Officer:**

Marie Dempsey: 07455046815 Email: safeguarding@stmaryspurton.org.uk

If the concern is about the people named above or if you can't contact the people above and if advice is needed contact **Our Diocesan Safeguarding Adviser: 0117 906 0100**

If advice is needed on a safeguarding issue and the PSO or DSA are not available, the Thirty One:Eight⁶ (a Christian Charity) provide a helpline that can be contacted on 0303 003 11 11. Please state that you are calling from a Diocese of Bristol church and contact your PSO as soon as possible to report that you sought advice from Thirty One:Eight and action taken.

⁶ Formerly known as Churches Child Protection Advisory Service (CCPAS)

Appendix 2: Categories of Abuse and additional information
Categories, Definitions and Indicators of Harm (Last Updated April 2017 v4)

Type Of Harm	Definition	Examples	Indicators
<p>Physical</p> <p>Adults and Children</p>	<p>Non-accidental harm to the body. From careless rough handling to direct physical violence. Unlawful or inappropriate use of restraint or physical interventions.</p>	<p>Hitting, slapping, pinching, shaking, pushing, scalding, burning, dragging, kicking, physical restraint, locking an individual in a room or a car.</p>	<p>History of unexplained falls or minor injuries, bruising which is characteristic of non-accidental injury – hand slap marks, pinch marks, grip marks, bite marks, scalds, flinching, reluctant to undress.</p>
<p>Sexual</p> <p>Adults and Children</p>	<p>Direct or indirect involvement in sexual activity without capacity and/or consent. Individual did not fully understand or was pressured into consenting.</p> <p>Note: A child under 16 years old can never consent to any sexual act</p>	<p>Coercion to be involved in the making or watching of pornographic material. Coercion to touch e.g. of breasts, genitals, anus, mouth, masturbation of either self or others, penetration or attempted penetration of vagina, anus, mouth with or by penis, fingers and or other objects</p>	<p>Pregnancy in a woman unable to give consent, difficulty in walking or sitting with no apparent explanation, torn, stained or bloody underclothes or bedding, Bleeding, bruising to the rectal and/or vaginal area, bruising. Behavioural changes, sexually explicit behaviour, explicit language, self-harm, obsession with washing, fear of pregnancy may be exaggerated</p>
<p>Emotional</p> <p>Adults and Children</p>	<p>Behaviour which has a harmful effect on an individual’s emotional wellbeing or development, causing mental distress undermining their self-esteem and affecting individual’s quality of life.</p>	<p>Shouting, coercion, bullying, blaming, insulting, ignoring, threats of harm or abandonment, intimidation, harassment, humiliation, depriving an individual of the right to choose</p>	<p>Loss of interest, withdrawn, anxious or depressed, frightened, avoiding eye contact, irritable, aggressive or challenging behaviour, unexplained sleep disturbance, self harm, refusing to</p>

Type Of Harm	Definition	Examples	Indicators
	Wilful infliction of mental suffering by a person in a position of trust and power.	and their privacy, dignity, self - expression, deprivation of contact, undermining self-esteem, isolation and over-dependence. Failure to provide a loving environment for a child.	eat, deliberate soiling, unusual weight gain or loss
<p>Neglect</p> <p>Adults and Children</p>	Failure of any person who has responsibility for the charge, care or custody of an adult at risk or child to provide the amount and type of care or treatment that a responsible person could be expected to provide.	Fail to meet basic needs including food, environment, access to health care and education, failure to provide for social needs.	Unwashed/ dirty appearance, clothes too small/big, untreated sores or infections, isolation.
<p>Financial</p> <p>Adults</p>	The unauthorised taking (theft), deprivation or misuse of any money, income, assets, funds, personal belongings or property or any resources of an adult at risk without their informed consent or authorisation.	Misuse of power of attorney or appointeeship. Money and possessions stolen, misuse or misappropriating money, valuables or property, possessions or benefits, undue pressure in connection with wills, property, inheritance or financial transactions, denying the adult at risk the right to access funds, unauthorised disposal of property or possessions, being asked to part with money on false pretences,	Unexplained or sudden inability to pay bills, Power of Attorney obtained and misused when a person lacks or does not lack mental capacity to understand, unexplained withdrawal of money with no benefits, person lacking goods or services that they can afford, extortionate demands for payments for services

Type Of Harm	Definition	Examples	Indicators
Organisational Adults	<p>Involves the collective failure of an organisation to provide safe, appropriate and acceptable standards of service to adults at risk.</p> <p>Mainly relates to health and social care provision but aspects may be relevant to Church settings</p>	<p>Lack of individualised care, inappropriate confinement or restriction, sensory deprivation, inappropriate use of rules, custom and practice</p>	<p>Whistle blowing policy not in place and accessible, insufficient employees training and development.</p> <p>Organisational standards not meeting those laid down by regulatory bodies, service users not treated with dignity and respect, diverse needs not recognized and valued in terms of age, gender, disability, ethnic origin, race or sexual orientation, services not flexible</p>
Discriminatory Adults	<p>Exists when values, beliefs or culture result in a misuse of power that denies opportunity to some groups or individuals.</p>	<p>Verbal abuse, harassment or similar treatment, unequal treatment, deliberate exclusion from services such as education, health, justice and access to services and protection, harmful or derisive attitudes, inappropriate use of language</p>	<p>Repeated exclusion from rights afforded to citizens such as health, education, employment and criminal justice</p>
Modern Slavery	<p>Encompasses slavery, human trafficking, forced labour and domestic servitude. Traffickers and slave masters use whatever means they have at their disposal to coerce, deceive and force individuals into a life of abuse, servitude and inhumane treatment.</p>	<p>Adult or Child trafficked into UK or between places in UK for purpose of sexual abuse or labour.</p> <p>Adult or Child forced to work as domestic servant.</p> <p>Adult or child forced to work as sex worker, farm labourer, car cleaner.</p>	<p>Individual may not have their passport or Identity documents. They may not have access to or contact with friends and family.</p> <p>May never be left alone, live in poor conditions, not be able to leave of own free will. May have no access to funds.</p>

Type Of Harm	Definition	Examples	Indicators
			May not know where they are or who they are with.
Self-Neglect	A wide range of behaviour involving neglecting to care for one's personal hygiene, health or surroundings and includes behaviour such as hoarding.	May not react to or appropriately fulfil needs for health care, food, warmth. May live in an environment that is an environmental or fire risk and not take any measure to reduce risk or inadequate measures.	Environment, which is poorly maintained, dirty, animal infested, cramped to the degree that it places the individuals wellbeing at risk. May have untreated or inadequately treated physical health issues.
Domestic Violence	Incident or pattern of incidents of controlling, coercive or threatening behaviour, violence or abuse by someone who is or has been an intimate partner or family member regardless of gender or sexuality. Age range 16+	Includes: psychological, physical, sexual, financial, emotional abuse; so called 'honour' based violence; Female Genital Mutilation; forced marriage.	Appears to be afraid of partner / of making own choices, behaves as though she/he deserves to be hurt or mistreated, low self-esteem or appear to be withdrawn, appears unable or unwilling to leave perpetrator, makes excuses for or condones the behaviour of the person alleged to have caused harm, blames abuse on themselves
Spiritual Abuse ⁷⁸ (not defined in Statutory Guidance)	Inappropriate use of religious belief or practice	The misuse of the authority of leadership or penitential discipline, oppressive teaching or intrusive healing or deliverance ministries which may result in various types of harm.	Could be any of the above.

⁷https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/175437/Action_Plan_-_Abuse_linked_to_Faith_or_Belief.pdf

⁸[http://files.ccpas.co.uk/documents/Help-SpiritualAbuse%20\(2015\).pdf](http://files.ccpas.co.uk/documents/Help-SpiritualAbuse%20(2015).pdf)

Some Additional Information:

Child Sexual Exploitation: All children and young people can be at risk of sexual exportation. This includes boys and girls of any age. This is a form of sexual abuse. Whilst young people can give consent to sexual acts from the age of 16 (so long as they have the capacity to do so) they continue to be a risk of sexual exploitation beyond their 16th birthday. **Any concern that a child or young person may be at risk of or experiencing sexual exploitation must be reported immediately to Children's Social Care or the police.** Sexual exploitation of children and young people under 18 involves exploitative situations, contexts and relationships where young people (or a third person or persons) receive 'something' (e.g. food, accommodation, drugs, alcohol, cigarettes, affection, gifts, money) as a result of them performing, and/or another or others performing on them, sexual activities. Child sexual exploitation can occur through the use of technology without the child's immediate recognition; for example, being persuaded to post sexual images on the Internet/mobile phones without immediate payment or gain. In all cases, those exploiting the child/young person have power over them by virtue of their age, gender, intellect, physical strength and/or economic or other resources. Violence, coercion, and intimidation are common, involvement in exploitative relationships being characterised in the main by the child or young person's limited availability of choice resulting from their social/economic and/or emotional vulnerability.

Female Genital Mutilation: Female genital mutilation (sometimes referred to as female circumcision) refers to procedures that intentionally alter or cause injury to the female genital organs for non-medical reasons. The practice is illegal in the UK. It has been estimated that over 20,000 girls under the age of 15 are at risk of female genital mutilation (FGM) in the UK each year, and that 66,000 women in the UK are living with the consequences of FGM. However, the true extent is unknown, due to the "hidden" nature of the crime. The girls may be taken to their countries of origin so that FGM can be carried out during the summer holidays, allowing them time to "heal" before they return to school. There are also worries that some girls may have FGM performed in the UK. Any concern that a child of adult who may be vulnerable may be at risk of FGM must be reported immediately to the relevant Local Authority or directly to police.

Terrorism and Extremism: Any person may become drawn into extremism or sympathy with such views and into terrorism. This will often happen through contacts made via the internet but a culture that supports this can develop in any community, group, school or faith organisation. The Counterterrorism and Security Act 2015 places duties on certain bodies, not including Faith Organisations (excepting where such an organisation runs a school or other relevant premises) to have due regard to the need to prevent people from being drawn into terrorism. Everybody should be alert to any indication that a person or group may be developing or has developed an interest or ideology that may include harm to others. **Any concern related to this whether for a child or adult must be reported to the police without delay.**

Appendix 3 Purton Parish Safer Recruitment – Application Status Tracker

ROLE:
APPLICANT NAME:

EMPLOYED: YES / NO
START DATE:

All staff and volunteers must be recruited according to the Church of England Safer Recruitment policy and Purton Parish Safeguarding Policy. It is the responsibility of the PCC to ensure that this happens. Be aware that recruitment into one role does not mean that the person is suitable for additional roles and that DBS and other procedures differ dependent on role.

Process Step	Who Owns / Safer Recruitment Role	Date Complete	Comments (where documented, as applicable)
1. Need for new staff member/ volunteer identified.			
2. PCC or delegated person agrees to recruit.			
3. A role description/ profile is written.*			
4. Post advertised if appropriate (including DBS disclosure requirement if relevant*).			
5. Application form completed and reviewed.			
6. Potentially suitable candidates interviewed.			
7. Reference requests made for successful candidate.			
8. Confidential self-declaration completed.			
9. DBS disclosure application made if relevant.			
10. References received.			
11. DBS application self-declaration form completed.*			SEND to Parish DBS Checker.
12. References and DBS information reviewed and employment decision made.*			DOCUMENT and COMMUNICATE decision.
13. <i>If candidate successful, induction, training and supervision plan created.</i>			MOVE these documents to employee file for storage.
14. <i>Review held after agreed probationary period.</i>			
15. <i>Candidate and PCC informed that probationary period successful or unsuccessful.</i>			
DESTROY this document	EITHER AFTER unsuccessful application OR end of employment (see CofE guidelines*)		DATE:

* See Church of England / thirtyone:eight Safer Recruitment Practice Guidance and Templates (for retention information see <https://www.churchofengland.org/more/libraries-and-archives/records-management-guides>)

Appendix 4 Purton Parish Safer Recruitment DBS Check Status Tracker

ROLE:

EMPLOYED: YES / NO

APPLICANT NAME:

DECISION COMMUNICATION DATE:

All staff and volunteers must be recruited according to the Church of England Safer Recruitment policy and Purton Parish Safeguarding Policy. It is the responsibility of the PCC to ensure that this happens. Be aware that recruitment into one role does not mean that the person is suitable for additional roles and that DBS and other procedures differ dependent on role.

This check is to take place **AFTER** a candidate for a role is considered potentially successful, but **BEFORE** a role is formally offered. Advertisements of a role must include any DBS disclosure requirement(s)*.

Process Step	Who Owns / Safer Recruitment Role	Date Complete	Comments (where documented, as applicable)
1. Applicant completes confidential DBS self-declaration form* and returns to application owner.			
2. Applicant DBS self-declaration form given to Parish DBS Checker.			
3. Applicant receives invitation to complete online DBS disclosure application (preferably by email).			Invitation includes instructions, including for portable DBS checks.
4. <i>Applicant makes DBS disclosure application online.*</i>			
5. <i>DBS Parish Checker verifies Applicant ID documentation, & updates "section Y".</i>			
6. <i>DBS Parish Checker views online application results**.</i> <i>If DBS comes back saying 'Please view certificate' view certificate & note exact wording & contact the DSA.</i>			
7. DBS Parish Checker informs application owner of status.			
8. <i>DBS review completed by application owner if required.</i>			
9. <i>DBS Parish Checker updates online system with date certificate viewed if required.</i>			
10. If applicant is employed, then DBS Parish Checker updates Parish DBS check spreadsheet.			MOVE these documents to Parish DBS file for storage. Safeguarding training included in role induction and training plan.
DESTROY this document	180 calendar days AFTER DBS check decision communicated to applicant.	DATE:	

* See Church of England / thirtyone:eight Safer Recruitment Practice Guidance and Templates, including for Overseas or Fair Recruitment applicants (<https://disclosure.capitarvs.co.uk/ccpas/>) **DBS check results include "no information" or "wait to view certificate"

Appendix 6 Streaming services – Safeguarding, Data Protection and Faculty considerations (from Bristol Diocese)

Safeguarding

Because it is hard/impossible to control who sees images streamed or recorded for broadcast children and vulnerable adults must be protected.

- Provide an area of the church which is not visible in the recording/streaming and clearly mark out this area for people.
- All families with children or young people attending should be asked to sit in this area so that they are not visible on the recording/streaming.
- This area should also provide for members of the congregation who may prefer to attend in privacy and may not wish their whereabouts to become known publically.
- Anyone coming forward to receive communion should also not be visible in the recording/streaming.
- Relaying or recording sound only is unlikely to cause an issue as individuals in the congregation will not normally be identifiable.

Data Protection

Peoples personal data must be protected and this includes visual images of attending members of the congregation.

- If livestreaming and/or recording is usually done in your church, livestreaming a service should be covered by your existing GDPR consent forms or the legitimate interest base for processing personal data. Otherwise specific consent is needed to film the congregation attending the service (either live-streaming or recorded) as opposed to the celebrant and readers etc delivering the service.
- Before attending a service which is to be streamed and/or recorded, a notice should be clearly visible at the entrance to the church, informing the congregation that the service is to be livestreamed and/or recorded, and advising them of seating areas which will NOT be filmed, if they do not wish to be identifiable during the service. So long as this advance warning is given (put on the website/social media too) and the notice includes a statement that they will be presumed to have given consent if they attend the service, after seeing the notice, written consent is not needed.
- Announce to the congregation that the service is being livestreamed/recorded at the start of the service.

Faculty issues

Any installation of *permanent* CCTV facilities requires a faculty, but *temporary installation* including attaching to the fabric of the building can be covered by an archdeacon's temporary reordering licence for a period of up to 24 months, using Form 9. (See Faculty Jurisdiction Rules 2015 Rule 8.2.)

Source:

<https://www.bristol.anglican.org/news/church-online-in-the-next-phase-advice-and-considerations.php#SAFE>