

The Church of England is committed to the safeguarding, care and nurture of everyone within our church community so that all can flourish in faith and know the love of God.

We all have a responsibility to care for one another, and to keep people safe from harm, and it is especially important that children and vulnerable adults are protected.

Our work is based on the following six safeguarding commitments, agreed on by the bishops of the Church of England in 2017;

- Promoting a safer environment and culture
- Safely recruiting and supporting all those with any responsibility related to children 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
- Responding to those that may pose a present a risk to others

### Safeguarding Nationally

The National Safeguarding Team (NST) is involved with;

- Developing and implementing national policy
- Casework on complex and high profile cases
- Commissioning lessons learned reviews
- National survivor support and engagement work
- Co-ordinating independent diocesan safeguarding audits
- Strengthening and supporting national safeguarding networks
- Engagement with the Independent Inquiry into Child Sexual Abuse (IICSA)

For more information about these areas of work please click [here](#)

### Safeguarding in the Diocese of Canterbury

For Safeguarding advice contact Diocesan Safeguarding Advisers:

Paul Brightwell tel 07398009951 email: [pbrightwell@diocant.org](mailto:pbrightwell@diocant.org)

Fiona Coombs tel 07548232395 email: [fcoombs@diocant.org](mailto:fcoombs@diocant.org)

For Safeguarding Training:

Katy Harper Safeguarding Trainer tel: 07732 681789 [safeguarding@diocant.org](mailto:safeguarding@diocant.org)

For Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) enquiries:

Karen Carolan-Evans Safeguarding Administrator tel: 01227 459401 email: [safeguarding@diocant.org](mailto:safeguarding@diocant.org)

If your query relates to a safeguarding issue within the Diocese of Canterbury you can also find information by clicking here:

<https://www.canterburydiocese.org/safeguarding/>

### Safeguarding in a Different Diocese

All 42 dioceses of the Church of England employ a Diocesan Safeguarding Adviser (DSA). A DSA is the first point of call for someone wishing to report an allegation of abuse. They manage allegations, advise survivors and work closely with external agencies. They are also involved with training, policies and procedures.

You can find your local Diocesan Safeguarding Adviser by clicking [here](#)

### Disclosing Abuse

**If you have information about a safeguarding situation where a child or adult is in immediate danger or requires immediate medical attention call the emergency services on 999. Do not delay.**

Details of the safeguarding team based in your diocese can be found via the relevant diocesan website. You can find your local Diocesan Safeguarding Adviser by clicking [here](#)

If you wish to report any safeguarding concerns directly please contact [Safeguarding@churchofengland.org](mailto:Safeguarding@churchofengland.org) (This is a Monday-Friday, 9am – 5pm service, in emergencies contact police on 999.)

### Support for those affected by abuse

If you are a survivor of abuse in a church context, and would like to talk to someone about this, the DSA in your area will be able to talk you through the different options available for you. You can find your local DSA by clicking [here](#)

Safe Spaces is a free and independent support service, providing a confidential, personal and safe space for anyone who has been abused through their relationship with either the Church of England, Church in Wales or the Catholic Church of England and Wales.

You can contact the Safe Spaces team online [here](#) or Telephone: 0300 303 1056 or Email: [safespaces@victimsupport.org.uk](mailto:safespaces@victimsupport.org.uk)

If you would value support from people who have been through similar experiences, you can contact MACSAS, Ministers and Clergy Sexual Abuse Survivors. MACSAS is a support group for women and men from Christian backgrounds who have been sexually abused by Ministers or Clergy, as children or as adults. Please see their website at [www.macsas.org.uk](http://www.macsas.org.uk).

The following groups may also be of help:

- NSPCC Child Protection Helpline: 0808 800 5000 (lines free and open 24 hours). Phone if you are worried about a child.
- Child-line: 0800 1111 (lines free and open 24 hours). Phone if you are a child or young person and are worried about anything.
- National Domestic Violence Helpline: 0808 2000 247 ((lines free and open 24 hours). Phone if you are experiencing domestic abuse.
- Samaritans Helpline: 08457 90 90 90 (open 24 hours). Phone if you feel you are struggling to cope and need someone to talk to.
- Action on Elder Abuse Helpline: 080 8808 8141 ( free phone Monday to Friday 9-5pm)
- The National Association of People Abused in Childhood: Helpline: 0800 085 3330 [www.napac.org.uk](http://www.napac.org.uk)

### Past Cases Review 2 for the National Church Institutions

The Past Cases Review 2 is being carried out in the National Church Institutions, including the offices of the Archbishops of Canterbury and York. The review is expected to be completed in 2021 – the original finish date was extended due to restrictions imposed by COVID-19.

Individuals who wish to make representations to the PCR2 process or who need to come forward with information or make any disclosures regarding church related abuse are encouraged to make direct contact with [their diocesan safeguarding adviser](#). However, recognising that this may not feel safe for those with a lived experience of abuse from within the church, a dedicated telephone helpline - **0800 80 20 20** - operated independently from the church, by the NSPCC, has been set up.

### Terms of Reference

### NCIs Safeguarding Privacy Policy

Read and download the Data Protection Privacy Policy

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**Source URL:** <https://www.archbishopofcanterbury.org/safeguarding>