



PARISH SAFEGUARDING

NEWS

ISSUE 1

JANUARY 2018

SPECIAL POINTS OF IN- TEREST:

- What is safeguarding?
- Safer recruitment and DBS
- Educare
- Parish Reps
- Rechecks
- Update Service



Dear All

We do hope you have enjoyed the Christmas season.

Since the publication of the Future Full of Hope we are reminded that safeguarding is integral to every day Parish life, and as such we wanted to send out a newsletter to all parishioners to celebrate that aspect.

This newsletter will explain the role of safeguarding and will give you a better understanding of our work in the office and how we fit into the Diocese.

We will endeavor to send a Newsletter out on a quarterly basis. If there is anything you would like us to include in the next edition please contact Rebecca Monks on :

Rebecca.monks@cliftondiocese.com by 19/02/2018.

In the meantime, if you wish to discuss any safeguarding issues with us, please do not hesitate to contact the office on 0117 9540993.

Our very best wishes to you for a joyous New Year.

The Safeguarding Team

The Safeguarding Team

The Safeguarding Team currently consists of a Safeguarding Coordinator, Safeguarding Officer, Safeguarding Support & Administration Officer and a Safeguarding and Safe Recruitment Administrator.

Liam Ring—Safeguarding Co-ordinator: Manages the safeguarding functions within the Diocese, dealing with allegations of abuse, the implementation of policy and procedures, overseeing safer recruitment and training for Clergy, volunteers and employees.

Becky Cawsey—Safeguarding Officer: Deals with allegations of abuse alongside the Safeguarding Coordinator and implements the national training standards in the Clifton Diocese for Clergy, Parish Reps and volunteers which is overseen by the Safeguarding Coordinator.

Rebecca Monks—Safeguarding Support and Administrator Officer: Provides secretarial support to the Safeguarding Coordinator, Safeguarding Officer and the Safeguarding Commission. Oversees the safer recruitment in the office and provides training on the safer recruitment process/DBS process to the Parish Reps.

Emma Kayne — Safeguarding and Safe Recruitment Administrator: Ensures that all employees, Clergy and volunteers working with children and vulnerable adults are appointed in accordance with the requirements of safer recruitment and the Disclosure and Barring Service.

What is Safeguarding?

The definition from the 2012 NCSC document 'Towards a Culture of Safeguarding' states 'The Catholic Church in England and Wales is striving towards a culture of safeguarding where all are safe from harm and abuse and where every person is encouraged and enabled to enjoy the fullness of life in Jesus Christ through the prayerful, caring, nurturing, supportive and protective endeavours of the Catholic Community, both individually and collectively.'

A key message to remember is that safeguarding is everyone's responsibility.

SAFER RECRUITMENT AND DBS

We acknowledge that our Parishes in the Diocese couldn't run without our volunteers and whilst we are grateful to people volunteering, please be advised that before a parishioner can volunteer to work with children and/or vulnerable adults, they must go through the safer recruitment process with a view to receiving a Disclosure and Barring (DBS) certificate. The safer recruitment process is as follows:

New check for volunteers who haven't gone through the Safer recruitment process before or if they have, this is for another work force i.e. previously worked with children and now want to work with vulnerable adults:

This is a two step process where the volunteer will initially complete an application form, safeguarding self-declaration form and the front page of the ID Form (the Parish Rep will complete the rest of the ID Form when verifying the applicant's ID). before references are applied for by the Parish Rep. Only when the Parish Reps receive the references do they send in the above forms to the office along with copies of ID.

Upon receipt at the office, a DBS Application Form will be sent to the volunteer.

When the DBS Form has been completed by the volunteer and returned to the safeguarding office it is then processed online. We appreciate this process seems long and cumbersome but the Catholic Church is aware that the DBS process and safer recruitment checks need to complement each other. This will in turn make the Church a safer place for all.

Recheck

We are now in the process of rechecking all of our volunteers who have CRB/DBS clearance over three years approx. 3,500-4000). Emma has been in touch with all the Parish Reps to start the ball rolling. We are very pleased to say that we only have four Parishes out of the whole Diocese who are yet to complete this process so wanted to say a big thank you for your patience at this time.

*'Even these
may forget
but I will
never forget
you said the
Lord'
Isaiah 49:16*

EDUCARE TRAINING PACKAGE

The Church has a responsibility to ensure all those who undertake work in the name of the Church are adequately trained in safeguarding matters. The Catholic Church is dependent on Clergy, Religious and Lay people using their skills and talents to nurture and support the Catholic community. Some will be paid employees, but the majority undertake their work on a voluntary basis. Whilst some will recognise their role as a volunteer, many rightly see their caring and support contribution as part of their Christian responsibility and ministry. But we all have a role to play in safeguarding the young or adults who may be at risk and it is for this reason that the Catholic Church in England and Wales has worked with EduCare to bring you an e-learning package that will raise awareness throughout the Catholic Community in our countries. The e-learning package is part of the Church's commitment to safeguarding, and is available to all members of the Catholic community free of charge. If you would like to register your interest, please contact Rebecca Monks on: rebecca.monks@cliftondiocese.com and include your full name and the name of the Church you attend.

PARISH REPS

The role of the Parish Rep is key to creating an environment where all our parishioners feel safe and valued. Not only are they the first port of call for concerns that come into the Parish, they are also at the fore front of safer recruitment practice.

The Clifton Diocese is very fortunate to have Parish Reps in all but two of its Parishes. The role of the Parish Rep can be challenging at times and we wanted to say a big thank you to all our current Reps for your patience, time and dedication.

At present we have vacancies for Parish Reps in the following two Parishes

St Catharine's, Chipping Camden
The Good Shepherd, Ukranian Church

If you would like more information around what the role of the Parish Rep entails, please contact Rebecca Monks on rebecca.monks@cliftondiocese.com or 0117 9540993 and speak with your Parish Priest to express an interest.

Online Update Service

'In June 2013 the DBS Update Service was launched. The service allows applicants to keep their DBS Disclosure Certificates up to date as well as assisting employers and appointers to check a DBS Disclosure Certificate. The benefits of joining the update service are as follows:

The applicant will be able to take their DBS certificate from one job or role to the next unless:

- The employer or appointing organisation asks them to apply for a new certificate;*
- A certificate is needed for a different 'workforce' e.g. the existing certificate is for the child workforce and the new job or role is for the adult workforce;*
- A different level certificate is needed e.g. the existing certificate is enhanced but the new job or role is regulated activity and a barred list check is required.'*

Policy and procedure for use of the DBS Update Service, CSAS December 2017

N.B. if you would like to subscribe to the Online Update Service you will have 19 days from the date on your DBS certificate. This is free for volunteers but there is a charge of £13 per annum for employees.

Think U Know

Remember 'Stranger Danger', how things have changed. The danger is now so often within our own homes, even our pockets, via the internet. An amazing invention, full of useful information, music and hilarious video clips! it also houses a huge amount of disturbing and illegal material. It is hard enough for us as adults to wade through the raft of information we are confronted with following what we thought was a simple search, how can we expect children and young people to do safely without providing them with some support and guidance. Are you confident to have that conversation with your child, grandchild, family friend or are you struggling with what to say. Technology changes so swiftly and its hard to keep up to date. 'Think u Know' is a website containing a raft of age appropriate advice regarding staying safe on the internet. In addition to useful cartoon style material from 4 yrs upwards there is also information directed towards parents and carers.

Help your friends and family enjoy the internet safely, visit 'Think U Know' and spread the word.