

Record

Make full notes of what you are told, using the form available from the Parish Safeguarding Officer, if possible. Date and sign your notes. As far as possible, use the exact words that the child or adult used.

If you don't have the form available, this is what to record:

- Who was involved
- What happened
- Where it happened
- When it happened
- Why it happened
- Whom it was referred to
- How it happened

Pass the record on to the Parish Safeguarding Officer, or the vicar. They will then contact the Diocesan Safeguarding Team for further advice.

If you believe that the child or adult is at immediate risk of harm, then contact Police or Social Services immediately.

Contacts

Vicar

Rev Jonathan Vaughan
01455 220385
revjonathanvaughan@gmail.com

Parish Safeguarding Officer

Carole Court
01455 220013
gccourt10@gmail.com

Diocesan Safeguarding Adviser

Carol Clarke
024 7652 1345
carol.clarke@covcofe.org

Children's Social Care Coventry

024 7678 8555

Adult Social Care Coventry

024 7683 3003

Police

101/999

Childline

0800 1111

NSPCC helpline

0808 800 5000

The Wolvey Group of Churches

Safeguarding Quick Reference Guide

Looking after children
and vulnerable adults
in our churches

Introduction

Jesus said, “Come to me, all who are weary and heavy-laden, and I will give you rest.”

In saying this, Jesus has called his church to be a safe place for vulnerable people. Safeguarding is one part of this work, where we seek to create a safe culture in our churches. It helps us to:

- promote the welfare of all vulnerable people
- prevent abuse from occurring
- protect those at risk of abuse
- and respond well to those who have been abused

This leaflet aims to be a quick reference guide to help us in our joint responsibility to ensure our churches are safe, so that people can receive the life and care that Jesus Christ offers. It summarises the action steps referred to in the basic Safeguarding training all volunteers in our churches have received.

Recognise

The main forms of abuse are:

- Physical
- Emotional
- Sexual
- Neglect
- Financial
- Discriminatory
- Spiritual
- Radicalisation
- Online
- Modern Slavery

Signs of abuse may include physical harm, behavioural changes, indications shown in artwork etc.

Receive

We may become aware of abuse in a number of ways:

- Direct disclosure from a victim
- Allegation of abuse from someone else
- Concern over injuries or behaviour consistent with abuse

If we have a concern, **we must take it seriously and act.**

React

When someone comes to you to tell you about abuse,

DO

- let the person tell their story
- assure them that they will be taken seriously
- help them by listening
- pass on your concerns without delay
- record what you have been told

DO NOT

- promise confidentiality – but do reassure them that the right people will be informed
- ask leading questions, or probe for information
- assume someone else will recognise or report concerns
- discuss the case with others
- speak to the accused
- ignore the concern