

Important Information from the Safeguarding Office Regarding Safeguarding Training

For many years now in order to safeguard and promote the welfare of everyone who is associated with parish life, it has been the expectation of the Bishop, the Trustees and Safeguarding Commission that all who work with vulnerable groups (children, young people or adults at risk) undertake Diocesan Safeguarding Awareness Training. This is not dependent on their role being eligible for a DBS check.

The uptake of this training in the last few years has not been as high as we had expected and hoped for. For this reason, the Diocesan Safeguarding Commission has decided that we must do all we can to ensure that all those engaged in this important ministry have completed the mandatory training by the end of **March 2021**. Completion of this training will be required in order for individuals to be able to continue on their ministry.

As we are currently living with restrictions on social gatherings, it has been agreed that this training should be achieved by individuals registering and completing the online EduCare / Tes develop training available to us as a Church.

If you have completed the Diocesan face to face training in the last 3 years, your training is considered up to date.

If you have not completed any Diocesan Safeguarding Training in the last 3 years and you are involved in ministry with Children, you should complete the EduCare 'Child Protection' module.

If you have not completed any Diocesan Safeguarding Training in the last 3 years and you are involved in ministry with Vulnerable Adults/Adults at Risk (e.g. as an Extra Ordinary Minister of Holy Communion) you should complete the EduCare 'Safeguarding Adults' module.

In addition, if you are engaged in online ministry at this time, you should complete the EduCare 'Online Safety' module.

If your training is due to expire as is almost 3 years old, then you can complete either the Child Protection or Safeguarding Adult Refresher Module.

If you have a new group of Volunteers commencing ministry with Vulnerable Groups in your parish who have had no Safeguarding Training, the Safeguarding Team will consider providing a Zoom session for groups of up to 10 people. Please contact philip.wright@abdiocese.org.uk if this is something you would find useful.

In order to access EduCare Training, please email safeguarding@abdiocese.org.uk with your name, parish and role.

Thank you for your co-operation with the Safeguarding Team in this matter.