



SAFEGUARDING NEWSLETTER

ISSUE 3

MAY 2017

Points of interest

Safeguarding Team
update

DBS rechecks

Online Update
Service

Eucharist Ministers

Educare

Marriage Certificate

Clergy and Parish
Rep Training

Parish Rep Support
Meetings

Parish Rep Day

Free Post Envelopes

Safeguarding Self-
Declaration Form



Dear Parish Safeguarding Representative

We hope you are enjoying this Easter season.

After a long delay we are very pleased to bring you our latest Newsletter. We will do our very best to make this a quarterly feature to keep you up-to-date with the latest guidance from CSAS as well as the latest news from the Safeguarding Office.

As you can see from the points of interest there are particular issues that we would like to update you on. However, if there is something we have missed and you would like us to add to the next Newsletter please let us know by August 14 2017.

Best wishes

The Safeguarding Team

SAFEGUARDING TEAM UPDATE

The Safeguarding Team has changed slightly over the last year. We now have four members of staff that work in the Safeguarding Office. We are:

Liam Ring Safeguarding Coordinator

Email: liam.ring@cliftondiocese.com

Becky Cawsey Safeguarding Officer

Email: becky.cawsey@cliftondiocese.com

Beci Monks Safeguarding Support and Administration Officer

Email: rebecca.monks@cliftondiocese.com

Emma Kayne DBS Administrator

Email: emma.kayne@cliftondiocese.com

Office Tel No. 0117 9540993

DBS RECHECKS

Emma is now in the process of rechecking volunteers (and Clergy) for those that have clearance over three years old. As you can imagine with approx. 4,000 volunteers in the Diocese this is a huge task therefore we kindly ask for your patience as there may be a small backlog.

Originally we were working Deanery by Deanery but it was felt there were a lot of Parish Reps who were keen to start the process. Therefore if you would like to start rechecking your volunteers please contact

Emma and she can explain the process:

emma.kayne@cliftondiocese.com



ONLINE UPDATE SERVICE

Just a gentle reminder that volunteers wishing to subscribe to the Online Update Service have 19 days from the date of the certificate to do so.

It is not mandatory to subscribe but we do encourage it. The benefits to subscribing online are listed below:

1. The Applicant will potentially only ever need 1 Disclosure. This is on the assumption that the applicant undertakes roles with the same workforce (i.e. children or adults) and that the Disclosure is the same level of check.
2. When the Church seeks to undertake a recheck a new DBS Application Form may not be necessary as the Church will be able to check the status of a previous Disclosure online.
3. Avoids repetitive form filling and saves time.

N.B. If the level of the Disclosure is not applicable for a subsequent role, the applicant will be asked to go through the safer recruitment process again. An example of this is the applicant was initially working with children, but would now like to work with adults.

EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS (EM)

The latest guidance from CSAS is as follows:

Where it is the expectation in a diocese that an Extraordinary Minister take Holy Communion to people at home, the role is eligible for an enhanced disclosure. The role is only eligible for a barred list check if the Extraordinary Minister is expected to engage in regulated activity as part of the role.

Where the Bishop or priest puts restrictions on the role for individuals e.g. the Extraordinary Minister only distributes Holy Communion within the Church, the role is not eligible for an enhanced disclosure.

From a safeguarding perspective, for the EM's who only distribute Holy Communion within the Church, we request that they sign a declaration Form (available from the office) which states they will not go to someone's home to deliver the Holy Sacrament. This should be placed in the locked cabinet where all the application forms and references are kept.

We appreciate that this issue has caused some angst and we do hope that the above advice from the National Office has made things clearer.

From a personal point of view we just wanted to say a big thank you to those of you who have cleared all the EM's in your Parish, especially given the most recent guidance.

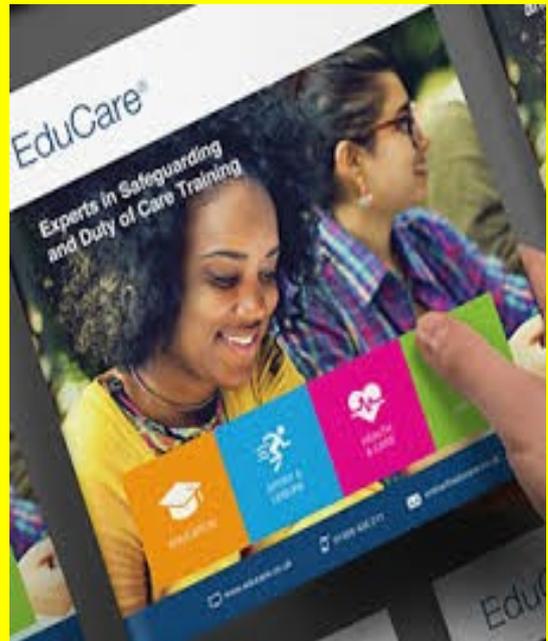
ID FORM (DBS 3)

Just a gentle reminder to ask that sufficient documentary evidence is provided to prove name changes (i.e. marriage certificate/Deed Poll certificate) for your volunteers if applicable. If the applicant cannot provide the relevant ID please initiate a probing discussion and note the explanation.

EDUCARE - FREE SAFEGUARDING TRAINING

This is an online training package available for all Catholics, is free of charge, and covers the following subjects:

Child Exploitation and online safety
Child Protection in Education - CSAS
Mental Capacity
Safeguarding Adults Refresher
Child Protection - CSAS
Child Protection Refresher
Safeguarding Adults - CSAS



If you would like to subscribe please contact Beci Monks with your full name, email address and name of your Parish. These modules are thought provoking and insightful. We would encourage as many Parishioners and Clergy as possible to subscribe to the training.

CLERGY AND PARISH REP SAFEGUARDING TRAINING

This is a two day consecutive training event which gives you an opportunity to attend with your Parish Priest. The next training events are:

11 & 12 July - Prinknash Abbey (9.30am - 3.30pm)

20 & 21 September - Downside Abbey (9.30am - 3.30pm)

Lunch and refreshments will be provided

We are very fortunate to have Fr Barry O'Sullivan from the Salford Diocese as one of the speakers. He has a wealth of experience in the world of child protection, and will be on hand to deliver a presentation on the Theology of Safeguarding.

If you would like to attend the training please contact **Beci Monks** who will be able to send you the relevant information.

PARISH REP SUPPORT MEETINGS

Now that the Safeguarding Office is running at full capacity, we are in a very good position to be able to support you further. We have started to run meetings on a quarterly basis in different locations of the Diocese. This gives you an opportunity to raise any issues you would like clarification on. In addition you will be able to network with colleagues in your area and share ideas.

The next meeting will be held in the Taunton area - dates to be confirmed and circulated in due course.

PARISH REP DAY - 6 MAY 2017

The Parish Rep Day was held at St Patrick's, Brockworth. The event was very well attended and covered the following issues:

- ◆ Support for Victims/Survivors
- ◆ Covenants of Care and Family Support
- ◆ Help in recognising abuse of vulnerable or older people
- ◆ DBS

NEW SAFEGUARDING OFFICER

I'm Becky Cawsey, the part time Safeguarding Officer for the Diocese and work to the Safeguarding Coordinator Liam Ring. I'm a retired Detective Inspector with a background in Safeguarding including the risk management of offenders in the community. I also volunteer at my local school where I assist half day a week with the Reception Class. I've been in my Diocesan Safeguarding Officer role for exactly a year now although the time has clearly swept by. During this past year as we've been delivering Safeguarding training to both Clergy and Parish Reps, it has been really interesting to meet with individual Parish Reps and hear about the various activities that are being delivered in the Parishes on a day to day basis. There is clearly a huge amount of work being done by very dedicated volunteers, and the role of the Diocesan Safeguarding Team would be nigh on impossible without your invaluable contributions. I hope to meet more of you as we continue on our training programme or at future Parish Safeguarding Rep support days.

FREE POST ENVELOPES

Just a gentle reminder to say that we can no longer use the Free Post Address. Royal Mail have now started to charge the Diocese £25 every time it receives an envelope with the old Freepost address on.

We do have new Freepost envelopes that we can provide you, simply contact Emma Kayne and she will be able to send you the amount you need.

In the meantime if you do need to send us anything by post, please use the following address. Any expenses can be claimed from the Parish:

Safeguarding Office
Alexander House
160 Pennywell Road
Bristol
BS5 0TX

Safeguarding Self Declaration Form

We urge all volunteers to include any indiscretion from their dim and distant past, which may result in a DBS Disclosure. This includes any Police caution or conviction, that one hopes has fallen from the radar due to the length of time passed. The Disclosure and Barring Service trawls through their records over many years.

Our discretion is assured and honesty from the outset always leads to an understanding ear and usually a positive outcome.

Once again thank you for all your hard work, it is very much appreciated. For those of you who were unable to attend the Parish Rep Day, please find below a thank you letter from the Bishop.

Dear Parish Rep

I would like to thank you for the work you do within your Parish to ensure that the Church is a safe environment in which children and young people can flourish and older more vulnerable people can be reminded that they belong and are not forgotten. Your role is not always an easy one and often requires sensitivity and diplomacy. Many parishioners are probably unaware of the Ministry that you offer to your Parish but without you they would not know that there is someone who cares for the welfare and wellbeing of their families. As we look to the future, in the words of Jeremiah 'A future full of hope' we are called to be a people who have a special care for the poor and vulnerable. In this we are expressing the love of God which is made visible in Jesus Christ. He makes all things new through the power of the Holy Spirit and leads us to the Father.

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We aim to send out another Newsletter in September. If there is anything you would like us to include please let us know by 14 August 2017

Best wishes

Liam, Becky, Beci and Emma