



Christmas opening hours

Thirty-one Eight's Disclosure Department will close at 5pm on the 21st of December 2020 and will reopen again on 4th January 2021. Although their offices along with the Disclosure Helpline will be closed, they will still be picking up any urgent emails and submitting applications intermittently throughout this period.

Their Safeguarding Helpline office hours will remain open until the close of business on 24th December 2020 and will reopen at 9:00am Monday 4th January 2021 They will still be providing an out of hours service for emergency safeguarding calls through this period.

New DBS Filtering Rules change

As of 28 November 2020 the filtering rules for Standard and Enhanced DBS Checks has changed. This is because of a recent judgement by The Supreme Court that some elements of the filtering rules were considered to be disproportionate. As a result, legislation has now changed and from this date Standard and Enhanced DBS certificates will disclose criminal records according to the new legislation. You can read more about the changes at <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/dbs-filtering-guidance>



What do I need to do?

You don't need to do anything as the new rules will be applied automatically and the diocesan safeguarding team will continue to risk assess any blemished DBS certificates on behalf of parishes. However, **you do need to be aware that two of the forms on our website have changed:**

- Form 6 Confidential Self-Declaration Form
- Rehabilitation of Offenders

Please use the new Confidential Self-Declaration Form with immediate effect.

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