

Safeguarding Good Practice Guidelines in Lichfield Diocese

What to do if...

You have concerns about possible abuse (including allegations):

1. In an emergency, respond immediately.
2. Consult the person to whom you are responsible.
3. Decide together whether to seek advice or to make an immediate referral.
4. Keep a record of what happened, your concerns and your actions.
5. Tell your minister and/or safeguarding co-ordinator.
6. Only tell others who need to know.

A child, young person or adult wishes to disclose they have been abused:

1. Listen. Keep listening. Do not question or investigate. Do not promise confidentiality; tell them we need to share this. Assure them they are not to blame.
2. Tell them what you are going to do and that they will be told what happens.
3. Make careful notes of what is said, record dates, times, events and when you are told.
4. Report it to the person to whom you are responsible and your minister or safeguarding co-ordinator.
5. Only tell those who need to know.
6. If a child is in imminent danger report to the Police or Social Service.

Things to remember...

- Treat everyone with respect, setting a positive example for others.
- Respect personal space and privacy.
- Ensure another adult is present or within sight or hearing of any activity.
- Ensure any actions cannot be misinterpreted by someone else.
- Challenge unacceptable behaviour.
- Do not put anyone, including yourself, in a vulnerable or compromising situation.
- Do not have inappropriate physical or verbal contact with others.
- You must not keep allegations or suspected abuse secret.

Resources

Promoting a Safer Church
(CHP 2017)

The Parish Safeguarding Handbook
(CHP 2018)

Your church's safeguarding co-ordinator:

Name: _____

Tel: _____

www.lichfield.anglican.org/safeguarding

Useful contacts

NSPCC

0808 800 5000, www.nspcc.org.uk

Stop It Now

0808 1000 900, www.stopitnow.org.uk

Childline

0800 1111

Minister and Clergy Sexual Abuse Survivors

08088 010340, www.macsas.org.uk

Thirty One:Eight (formerly CCPAS)

PO Box 133, Swanley, Kent BR8 7UQ
0303 003 11 11, www.thirtyoneeight.org

**Domestic Violence Support
Refuge/Women's Aid**

www.womensaid.org.uk
helpline@womensaid.org.uk

Samaritans

Counselling for those in despair or suicidal
116123, jo@samaritans.org

Victim Supportline

0808 168 9293, www.victimsupport.org.uk

**NAPAC – National Assoc. for People
Abused in Childhood**

0808 801 0331, www.napac.org.uk

National Domestic Violence Helpline

0808 2000 247

Elder Abuse Helpline

080 8808 8141

Family Lives Helpline

0808 800 2222

RESPECT Men's Advice Line

0808 801 0327

If you need to contact your local Children's Services Safeguarding team please check your local authority website.

Diocesan Safeguarding Advisers

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