

Diocese of Oxford – Local Ministry Training

Safeguarding Statement

Ensuring good safeguarding policies and practices for both children and adults is rightly high on the church's agenda. Within the Diocese of Oxford, we have a professional safeguarding team and have developed extensive policies and guidance in the area of safeguarding.

- Key safeguarding contacts and current guidance is given on the diocesan website here: <https://www.oxford.anglican.org/safeguarding/>
- Information on Support for Survivors is available here: [support-for-survivors.pdf \(d3hgrlq6yacptf.cloudfront.net\)](https://support-for-survivors.pdf(d3hgrlq6yacptf.cloudfront.net))
- Guidance from the national Church is available here: [Safeguarding: A safer church | The Church of England](https://www.churchofengland.org.uk/safeguarding)

We therefore do not have detailed separate safeguarding policies for our local ministry training programmes. Rather, within a broader commitment to diocesan safeguarding policies, we are further committed to the following:

- 1) All candidates training as potential ordinands or LLMs, and other learners undertaking a Durham Award (or formally undertaking a Placement under the auspices of diocesan ministry programmes) will receive safeguarding training within their first year of training, and before undertaking any placement outside their 'home' parish/benefice. Details and dates for all safeguarding training opportunities will be found at: <https://www.oxford.anglican.org/support-services/safeguarding/safeguarding-training/>
- 2) All potential ordinands and LLMs in training already receive DBS clearance before entering training. We ensure that other learners who need to undertake placements receive appropriate clearance through their parish.
- 3) Part of the role description of a placement supervisor is to 'ensure that any work with children or vulnerable adults is carried out in accordance with good practice and with the safeguarding policy of the parish/placement institution'.
- 4) We have contracted with the Diocese of Guildford (the lead institution for Common Awards in the South Central TEI consortium) that we will maintain our own safeguarding policy in accordance with House of Bishops guidelines. The other institutions in the SCTEI consortium have also contracted similarly.
- 5) Any safeguarding concerns will, in accordance with diocesan policy, be reported to our own Diocesan Safeguarding Team, in addition to any referrals being made to statutory authorities as appropriate. However, if the concern affects a Common Awards student or member of staff in the SCTEI consortium, this will also be notified to the Guildford Diocesan Safeguarding Adviser (as will any concerns from other institutions in SCTEI).

Reporting safeguarding concerns remains the responsibility of all learners and staff.