

St Walburge's
Preston



Statement of Purpose Safeguarding

November 2023



S. Walburge, Preston

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

SAFEGUARDING

What is Safeguarding?

“The Catholic Church in England and Wales is striving towards a culture of safeguarding where all are safe from harm and abuse and where every person is encouraged and enabled to enjoy the fullness of life in Jesus Christ through the prayerful, caring, nurturing, supportive and protective endeavours of the Catholic community, both individually and collectively.”.

(Towards a Culture of Safeguarding 2012).

The Rector and Trustees are committed to safeguarding as an integral part of the life and ministry of the Church. Every human being has a value and dignity which we, as Catholics, recognise as coming directly from God’s creation of male and female in his own image and likeness. Therefore, our Shrine Church must be a safe place of welcome where we support and protect one another. We must take particular care of those who may be vulnerable due to age, illness, disability or current and past experiences in their lives and respond compassionately to their needs to help keep them safe from harm. How we approach this is to follow the guidance and principles of the Catholic Safeguarding Advisory Services (CSAS), promoting this approach in parishes and encouraging appropriate training for all.

In creating this safe culture, the clergy and the laity have a role to play. Clergy are aware of their responsibilities around safeguarding and are now mandated to take part in a programme of training.

Mr Peter Dilworth is the appointed Safeguarding Representative for this Shrine Church who has also undergone approved training.

The clergy and the Safeguarding Representative are supported by the Religious Life Safeguarding Service (RLSS).

The safeguarding team will also offer advice and support in areas not related to casework or training. This could be advice on procedures, whether something is a safeguarding concern, safer recruitment and other areas of best practice which promote a safer Church.

The RLSS has a highly qualified safeguarding team who will manage any casework. The team will work with the Safeguarding Lead and/or Leadership team to ensure that any safeguarding concerns are handled fully and to the highest possible standard.

However, safeguarding is a matter for everyone.

Wherever a child, young person or vulnerable adult is at risk or concerns are raised we have a duty to act to safeguard that individual and promote their welfare.

If you have concerns you can contact Peter Dilworth, the Safeguarding representative, the Religious Life Safeguarding Service, or, if there is immediate risk, the Police or Local Authority Children’s/Adult’s Social Services – contact numbers see page 3.

Our Shrine Church has a busy liturgical schedule but our activities extend beyond this as the church building is a unique landmark that attracts visitors whose attendance is perhaps not predicated by a desire to worship in the first place.

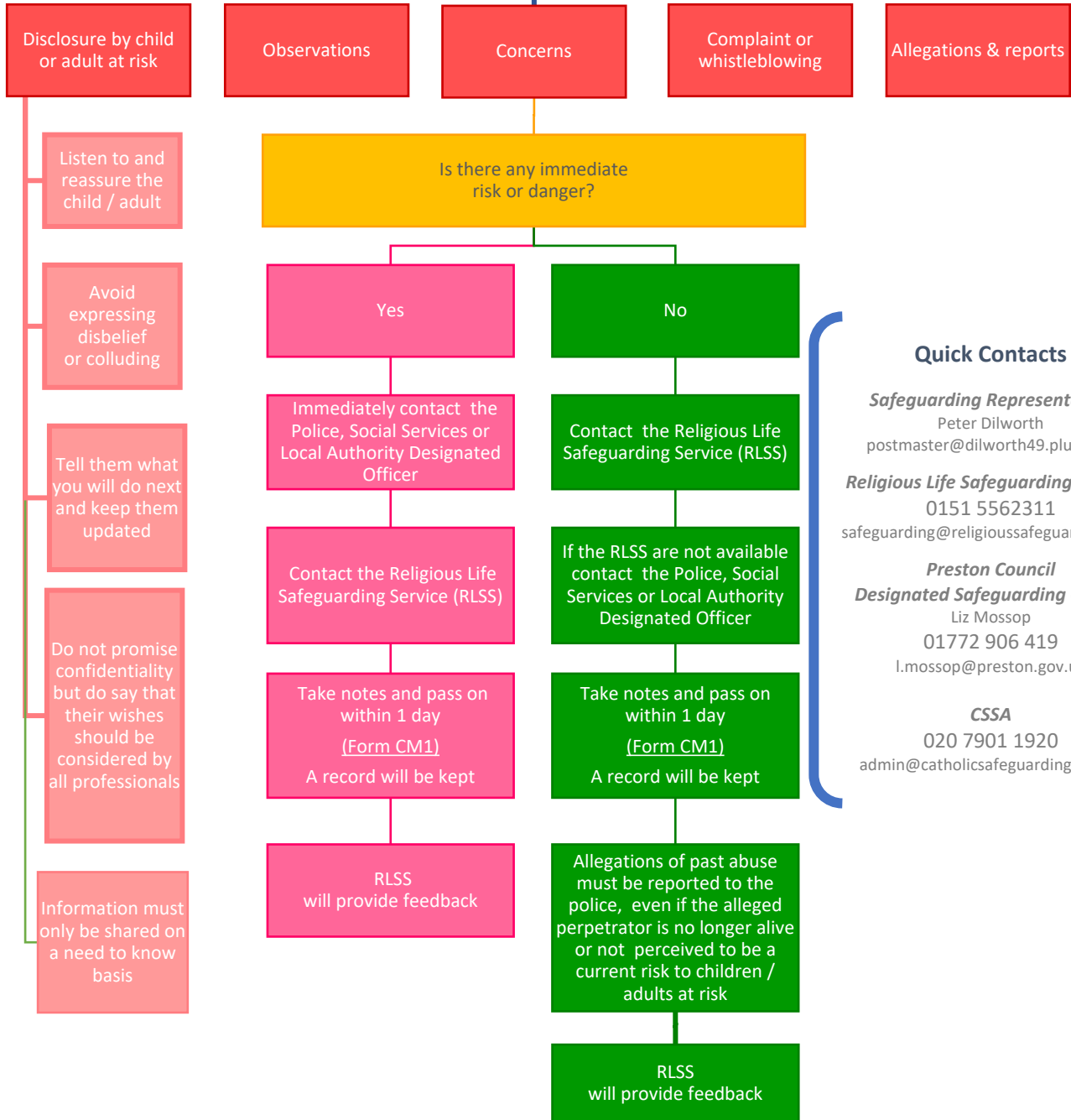
As part of the promotion of the church as a place to visit and learn about the place it holds in the heritage of the local community and simultaneously promote the Catholic faith, we encourage events and outreach. It has been agreed that the following will form part of this statement and as such will be our practice.

Safeguarding Policy for Community Outreach Projects

- Appropriate recruitment and induction procedures for all new volunteers responsible for providing safe environments for everyone attending ‘community outreach projects’ at the Shrine.
- Volunteers who work with children or vulnerable adults ought to possess suitable vetting clearing namely a Disclosure Barring Service (DBS) clearance.
- Where a volunteer does not have such clearance, deployment options should be referred to the Safeguarding Representative on a case by case basis.
- All volunteers wear a name badge.
- During project events all teachers/parents/guardians/carers are responsible for the continuous care and supervision of their own children/pupils/vulnerable adults. If they are unable to attend personally, they must delegate their responsibilities to an identified adult and ensure that their children/pupil/vulnerable adults are aware of the identity and name of the person responsible for their care. This includes supervision throughout their visit.
- Photographs will only be taken with written permission of the responsible adult or carer.

**Allegation of harm of a child or adult at risk
by a member of clergy / religious / church personnel comes to light, including:**

- ❖ inappropriate behaviour
- ❖ possible harm caused to a child or adult at risk, or
- ❖ possible crime committed against a child or adult at risk



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Preston - St Walburge's

Safeguarding Information

Your Safeguarding Representative is:

Peter Dilworth (postmaster@dilworth49.plus.com)

The Safeguarding representative has special responsibility for promoting good and safe practices in all activities involving children, young people and adults at risk.

Safeguarding for this church is supported by the

Religious Life Safeguarding Service

0151 5562311

safeguarding@religioussafeguarding.org

Reporting concerns

If you or someone you know has experienced abuse from the Catholic Church or if you are concerned about someone connected to the Church please contact the safeguarding team on 0151 5562311

*However, If you are concerned about the welfare of a **child or adult at risk**, do not delay in contacting the police, using 999 if a child or adult is believed to be in **immediate danger**.*

CHANGE HISTORY

September 2021	Initial release of statement.
25 January 2023	Amended 'Data & Barring Service' to 'Disclosure & Barring Service'.
29 November 2023	References to Shrewsbury Diocesan Safeguarding Team removed and replaced with Religious Life Safeguarding Service. CM1 added