

OUR COMMITMENT TO SAFEGUARDING

Ensuring that children and vulnerable adults are kept safe and know they are loved is at the very core of the Church's ministry. The work of safeguarding must be seen within the overall mission of the Church. As she seeks to protect the vulnerable and weak, the Church needs to 'act justly, love tenderly and walk humbly with God'. (Micah 6:8). It is a ministry of love and healing and seeks justice for all.

The Diocese is committed to safeguarding as an integral part of the life and ministry of the Church. Supported by and in compliance with the policies and procedures of the CSSA, we are striving towards a culture of safeguarding where all are safe from harm and abuse and where everyone is encouraged and enabled to enjoy the fullness of life in Jesus Christ through the prayerful, nurturing, supportive and protective endeavours of the Catholic Community, both individually and collectively.

The Diocese will ensure that any allegations of a safeguarding matter are responded to promptly and managed sensitively and considerately; we will liaise with statutory authorities to support investigations.

Getting Support

You might be looking at this page because something has happened to you, and you are looking for help and support. You may not have felt able to tell anyone before. The Safeguarding Team is here for you, to help and support you if you would like to share your experiences. If you contact us you will be heard and supported. We will take any concerns you share seriously, as we appreciate how hard it can be to talk about what has happened to you.

You can contact the Safeguarding Office

Monday to Friday between 9am – 5pm for a confidential conversation:

T: 01293 651148

E: safeguarding@abdiocese.org.uk

Safe Spaces is a free, national support service independently run by Victim Support. It provides a confidential, personal and safe space for anyone who has been abused through their relationship with either the Church of England or the Catholic Church of England and Wales.

You can contact Safe Spaces in the following ways:

T: 0300 303 1056 (Helpline)

E: safespaces@fear-less.org.uk

W: www.safespacesenglandandwales.org.uk (Live Chat on website)

