

Ridley Hall Safeguarding Policy

1. Important contact details

Important contact details

For contact details for designated safeguarding officers and sources of further help, members of Ridley Hall should visit the [Safeguarding contacts](#) page.

Designated Officers for Safeguarding (children & adults)

Designated Officers for Safeguarding (children and adults):

- Fiona Green: Safeguarding Lead 01223 741065
- Ann Daniels: Safeguarding Deputy
[01223 741073](#)

Designated Officer for Safeguarding (HR & recruitment)

Designated Officer for Safeguarding (HR and recruitment):

- Ann Daniels:
[01223 741073](#)

Governing Body (Trustee) Safeguarding Representative

Governing Body (Trustee) Safeguarding Representative:

- Andrew Presland

The local Cambridgeshire Social Services

The local Cambridgeshire Social Services (sometimes known as Social Care):

CHILDREN'S SERVICES:

- **Children's Social Care Services and Cambs Direct Contact Service:**
[03450 455203](#) (office hours)
[01733 234724](#) (emergencies out of office hours)

ADULT SERVICES:

- **Adult Social Care:**
[03450 455202](#) (office hours)
[01733 234724](#) (emergency out of office hours)

Police

Police:

- **Emergencies:** [999](#)
- **Non emergencies:** [101](#)

Diocesan Safeguarding Advisers

Diocesan Safeguarding Advisers:

- **Diocese of Ely Safeguarding Team Duty Phone:**
01353 652747
- **Diocese of Ely website:**
www.elydiocese.org/safeguarding

2. Our commitment

In line with the Church of England's Safeguarding policy '[Promoting a Safer Church](#)'

"The Church of England, its Archbishops, Bishops, clergy and leaders are committed to safeguarding as an integral part of the life and ministry of the Church.

Safeguarding means the action the Church takes to promote a safer culture. This means we will promote the welfare of children, young people and adults, work to prevent abuse from occurring, seek to protect those that are at risk of being abused and respond well to those that have been abused. We will take care to identify where a person may present a risk to others, and offer support to them whilst taking steps to mitigate such risks.

The Church of England affirms the 'Whole Church' approach to safeguarding. This approach encompasses a commitment to consistent policy and practice across all Church bodies, Church Officers and that everyone associated with the Church, who comes into contact with children, young people and adults, has a role to play.

The Church will take appropriate steps to maintain a safer environment for all and to practice fully and positively Christ's Ministry towards children, young people and adults; to respond sensitively and compassionately to their needs in order to help keep them safe from harm."

In particular, Ridley Hall aims to:

1. Reduce the risk of significant harm to vulnerable people (children and adults) from abuse or other types of exploitation, whilst listening to and supporting individuals
2. Ensure safeguarding is everybody's business, with this institution playing its part in preventing, detecting and reporting neglect and abuse
3. Ensure arrangements are in place locally to protect those least able to protect themselves.
4. Ensure pastoral care and support is provided to victims and survivors of abuse, and other affected persons.

3. Definitions

Definitions

1. A child is anyone who has not yet reached their 18th birthday.
2. In keeping with the definition from [Safeguarding Children, Young People, and Vulnerable Adults](#) (section 1.2.4) a 'vulnerable adult' means a person aged 18 or over whose ability to protect himself or herself from violence, abuse, neglect or exploitation is significantly impaired through physical or mental disability or illness, old age, emotional fragility or distress, or otherwise; and for that purpose, the reference to being impaired is to being temporarily or indefinitely impaired.
3. For definitions of abuse are found in the House of Bishops guidance on [Safeguarding Children, Young People, and Vulnerable Adults](#) (section 2)

4. Government National Policy Guidance

Government National Policy Guidance

This policy statement follows requirements from the following Government Guidance:

1. [Working Together to Safeguard Children](#)
A guide to inter-agency working to safeguard and promote the welfare of children *HM Government 2023*
2. [Care Act 2014](#)
Department of Health 2014

5. Church of England National Policy Guidance

This policy statement follows Church of England national safeguarding policies and procedures concerning safeguarding for vulnerable adults, children, responding well, training, and safer recruitment. The latest policies can be found on the Church of England website and are regularly updated:

<https://www.churchofengland.org/safeguarding/policy-and-practice-guidance>

6. Duties of Faith Organisations

Section 11 of the Children Act 1989 “places duties on a range of organisations and individuals to ensure their functions, and any services that they contract out to others, are discharged having regard to the need to safeguard and promote the welfare of children” ([Working Together to Safeguard Children](#) (pages 106, parag. 220).

The range of organisations includes “Faith Organisations”: Churches, other places of worship and faith-based organisations provide a wide range of activities for children and have an important role in safeguarding children and supporting families. Like other organisations who work with children they need to have appropriate arrangements in place to safeguard and promote the welfare of children. See chapter 4 of [Working Together to Safeguard Children](#) (pages 128-9, parag. 310-315)

7. Safeguarding requirements

Statutory Safeguarding requirements for all vulnerable people (children and adults)

Ultimate legal responsibility for safeguarding in Ridley Hall rests with the Governing Body which ensures that Ridley Hall has put in place safeguarding arrangements that reflect the importance of safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and adults in accordance with statutory requirements and locally agreed interagency procedures:

- as set out in [Working Together to Safeguard Children](#) (chapter 2 paragraph 4), in relation to children
- following equivalent guidance in relation to adults who are vulnerable.

Such statutory requirements are as follows:

1. a clear line of accountability for the commissioning and/or provision of services designed to safeguard and promote the welfare of children and adults
2. a member of the Governing Body to take leadership responsibility for the organisation’s safeguarding arrangements
3. a culture of listening to children and adults, taking account of their wishes and feelings, both in individual decisions and the development of services
4. arrangements which set out clearly the processes for sharing information, with other professionals and with the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Safeguarding Children Partnership Board (CSPB) or Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Safeguarding Adults Partnership Board (CPSAB)

5. Following the [House of Bishops practice guidance](#) relating to safer recruitment and people management
6. Clear policies in line with those from the CPSPB/CPSAB for dealing with allegations against people who work with children or adults who are vulnerable. An allegation may relate to a person who works with children or adults who has:
 - behaved in a way that has harmed a child or adult, or may have harmed a child or vulnerable adult;
 - possibly committed a criminal offence against or related to a child or vulnerable adult;
 - behaved towards a child or children or vulnerable adult(s) in a way that indicates they may pose a risk of harm to children or adults.
 - or behaved in a way that indicates they may be unsuitable to work with children or vulnerable adults.
7. Specific arrangements for the TEI's implementation of these requirements as set out in the [Application of Safeguarding Guidance to Theological Education Institutions](#).

Revised January 2025