Safeguarding Training Diocese of Leicester

Frequently Asked Questions

What training do I need to do?	The Safeguarding Training Requirements Table details various roles and the training required in the Diocese of Leiecester, it can be found here: Safeguarding Training Requirements Diocese of Leicester.docx - Google Docs If your specific role is not covered, there is a non specific volunteer role to help you work out which you need to do.

What courses can I do online?	The following courses can be completed on the Church of England Safeguarding Training Portal: Home | Safeguarding: Training Portal They can be accessed directly from the Home Page, or via the Courses heading on the purple ribbon. Basic Awareness - Core Pathways Foundation - Core Pathways Raising Awareness of Domestic Abuse - Issue Based Pathway Safer Recruitment and People Management - Toolkit Pathway Modern Slavery & Human Trafficking - Other Courses We don't currently use the Safeguarding Training Portal to administer the safeguarding Leadership or PTO training, this will be reconsidered after an update and reviewing feedback, details of the courses can be found here: Safeguarding Leadership Training Dates.docx - Google Docs PTO Safeguarding Training dates and deadlines.docx - Google Docs

Is safeguarding training optional?	No, if safeguarding training is required for your role, then there is a duty to comply with it. You can check here for the requirements in the Diocese of Leicester: Safeguarding Training Requirements Diocese of Leicester.docx - Google Docs PCCs have a duty to comply with safeguarding code and hold responsibility for ensuring people in roles in their context have completed the relevant safeguarding training. This means that if someone doesn't comply with the safeguarding training requirement they can't let them do the role. Licensed clergy and those with a licence/ authorisation from the bishop

	have a duty to comply with safeguarding code, which includes safeguarding training You can find more information here: Preface and Introduction | The Church of England Some people who don't have specific roles may choose to do basic awareness,or some other courses, because they are interested and want to understand safeguarding and recognise that safeguarding is everyone's responsibility.

Does training have to be repeated?	Yes. Safeguarding courses are valid for 3 years. Courses get revised every 3 years, taking into account feedback, various reviews or safeguarding learning.

Is training from other organisations acceptable instead of Church of England training?	The short answer is no, unless issued by the Methodist Church as they have a reciprocal arrangement in place. Safeguarding in a church setting is different to that of many other organisations because of the faith element and as part of the commitment for safeguarding to be part of the DNA of the church rather than an add on. The case studies and scenarios that are integral to the training focus on church contexts and situations that may arise. The issue has been discussed with safeguarding trainers, but revealed the complexities it would present and that there would still need to be an understanding of the church context.

When does my training expire/ need renewing?	For training completed on the Church of England Safeguarding Training Portal, you can find your completed courses and expiry dates under Records - My Training Record. For courses where certificates were issued by the diocese, the renewal or expiry date is on the certificate. From February 2025 certificates issued by the diocese will state 'expiry date' rather than renewal date.

Have these people done training?	People should be able to provide information about the training they have completed by providing a copy of the certificate. For courses completed on the Church of England Safeguarding Training

	Portal, Home | Safeguarding: Training Portal, people can nominate someone to be able to see their training record when they create their account or by editing their profile. This is usually a safeguarding coordinator, but could be an administrator. It can be beneficial to set up a church context safeguarding email, so that if the coordinator changes people don't need to change the email address. You can find more information here: Safeguarding: Training Portal: About the Site, and Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) | Safeguarding: Training Portal

Can someone else print my certificate?	Certificates issued on the Church of England Safeguarding Training Portal or the diocese are issued as a PDF and can be emailed to someone else to print. You can find more information about downloading certificates on the Church of England Safeguarding Training Portal here: Safeguarding: Training Portal: About the Site, and Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) | Safeguarding: Training Portal Certificates issued on the Church of England Safeguarding Training Portal cannot be accessed by anyone else, even if they are nominated to see your training record but they can see that you have completed it.

Can someone else see my certificate on the portal?	No, only the account holder can view or download the certificate on the portal. They can download and then email a copy of the certificate. Even if they have nominated someone to be able to see their training record, they can't view the certificate. You can find more information about downloading certificates on the Church of England Safeguarding Training Portal here: Safeguarding: Training Portal: About the Site, and Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) | Safeguarding: Training Portal

Why do so many people need to do safeguarding training?	The Church has an ambition to make a paradigm shift in its relationship with safeguarding. This requires recognition that safeguarding needs to move away from something that is in some respects external/ imposed upon the Church, to something that flows from within the soul of the Church. Safeguarding is at the centre of our faith, in our practice, in our worship, in praying, and in our believing. In other words, safeguarding needs to become integral to the very DNA of the Church rather than an appendage, with good safeguarding behaviours flowing

	naturally and intuitively. Theology, by which we simply mean clear thinking about God and the faith we share, has been interwoven into all our learning and development pathways. As the Independent Inquiry into child Sexual Abuse (IICSA) identified, this will require a significant shift in the Church's culture. In the past, things have happened in churches where people didn't always recognize that something was wrong, or know what to do about it. The Independent Inquiry into Child Sexual Abuse, IICSA, IICSA Independent Inquiry into Child Sexual Abuse, have looked at issues around the Church of England and published reports that show how things can go wrong, Investigation reports | IICSA Independent Inquiry into Child Sexual Abuse. Safeguarding is everyone's responsibility, not just vicars/ clergy/ safeguarding officers, you never know what piece of the jigsaw that you might have which could help to prevent or stop abuse of any type and the impact on all concerned. Abuse has a far-reaching impact on victims and survivors, as well as on those connected with them or the situation. The Church of England has comprehensively reviewed its safeguarding training, as part of its ongoing commitment to making church safer for everyone. Part of the review included identifying who needs to do which training to make it easier for everyone to understand the requirements. Some decisions about which training is needed could be made locally by Bishop Martyn, in the Diocese of Leicester in addition to the required training, we have also gone with the recommendations of who needs to do the training because we are committed to safeguarding. There is a table to help people to understand who needs to do which training. Safeguarding Training Requirements Diocese of Leicester.docx - Google Docs

Why is there so much online training?	Many people now have access to technology, which can be used in different ways and although training has been available on the portal for some time there are now more people with access to it. For some people online training offers greater flexibility and it is easier to access safeguarding training online without having to travel anywhere. Covid has helped expand the potential for online training and engagement with it.

	Church of England Safeguarding Training Portal based training can be completed at a time convenient to the individual and can be paused and picked up later. The training is consistent, which means that we can be sure that the training is fully portable within the Church of England no matter where it is completed. Certificates are stored as part of the portal account and can be accessed when needed. The diocese logs all safeguarding training completed on the portal. Safeguarding leadership training now has two 90 minute sessions, which is easier to complete online rather than having to travel for each session. Zoom works well for the small group discussion-based course. The Safeguarding Training Portal: Home | Safeguarding: Training Portal Safeguarding Leadership: Safeguarding Leadership Training Dates.docx - Google Docs PTO Safeguarding Training: PTO Safeguarding Training dates and deadlines.docx - Google Docs Face to Face Training: Face to face training opportunities - Google Docs

How long do the various Church of England Safeguarding Training portal-based training modules take?	There will always be some variation, but the estimated time for each course is below. You can pause the course and take a break and then pick it up later. Basic Awareness 75 – 90 minutes Foundation 90-120 minutes, 1½ or 1.5 hours Raising Awareness of Domestic Abuse 90-120 minutes, 1½ - 2 or 1.5-2 hours Safer Recruitment and People Management 90-120 minutes, 1½ - 2 or 1.5-2 hours

What about those that don't have computers/ internet access?	For some they will need to complete face-to-face training, which we offer for those unable to complete the training in another way, there are some ideas below that some have found helpful. Dates for face to face training can be found here: Face to face training opportunities - Google Docs. Dates are added as they become available. Many of the face to face courses are delivered in a local context, organised through the completion of the expression of interest in local training form which can be found here : local-safeguarding-training-expression-of-interest-form.docx - Google Docs

	Churches, or groups of churches, that have a number of people to complete face to face training, an accessible venue and are willing to offer hospitality to those completing the training. The courses can be run for up to 32 people. Spaces not needed are advertised more widely, which has allowed training to happen in different areas. Some people may be able to use a church device and email address with some support to allow them to complete safeguarding training. Some churches have got a small group together each with a device to do their training at the same time, so that they can stop and discuss things at various points and enjoy refreshments. This has worked well and allowed for fruitful discussion. Other churches have purchased a low cost church tablet and had someone sit with people to support them to create their portal account and complete their training. This has worked well where it has been tried. Accounts can be set up using a shared email address, see here for more information: Safeguarding: Training Portal: About the Site, and Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) | Safeguarding: Training Portal Do this before you plan to do the actual training to make it easier.

What training can be done face to face?	The following courses have been offered face to face: Basic Awareness Foundation Leadership (as needed, which can include local courses) PTO Safeguarding Training Raising Awareness of Domestic Abuse Safer Recruitment and People Management (when interest) You can find information about available courses here: Face to face training opportunities - Google Docs We haven't yet held face to face safeguarding coordinator PSO induction training, but if there is a need we would look to do that.

Why do people need a basic understanding	If we want to change the culture of the church and help everyone to be more aware of what safeguarding is and why it's important then we need to help them understand it. The more people that know about safeguarding, the more likely they are to spot and raise a concern.

of safeguarding?	Safeguarding is everyone's responsibility, not just clergy or parish safeguarding officers. Reviews of past incidents has raised the issue that sometimes people did not know what to do when they had concerns, or didn't feel able to raise issues; by helping more people to understand safeguarding we can continue to provide a healthy church culture where concerns are raised to try and prevent abuse from happening and where it is to act to identify and tackle it as soon as possible. Some of the statistics about abuse can be found here Abuse during childhood in England and Wales - Office for National Statistics Domestic abuse in England and Wales overview - Office for National Statistics Domestic abuse victim characteristics, England and Wales - Office for National Statistics Domestic abuse prevalence and trends, England and Wales - Office for National Statistics People who were abused as children are more likely to be abused as an adult - Office for National Statistics

Can training happen in my church/ setting/ minster community?	This may be possible if you have a number of people, up to 32 can attend, suitable venue and are happy that others can fill any available spaces. Training provided in this way will be the same as training provided on the portal, although there may be opportunities to discuss things to help understanding. There is an expression of interest in local training form that can be completed to explore this. local-safeguarding-training-expression-of-interest-form.docx - Google Docs

Why doesn't my safeguarding leadership training appear on my training record on the Safeguarding Training Portal?	Your training record on the Church of England Safeguarding training Portal **only includes courses that were completed through the portal**. Some dioceses use the Safeguarding Training Portal to administer safeguarding leadership courses, the Senior Safeguarding Leadership Training is run that way, but we are waiting for improvements before we do that.

Can someone complete their safeguarding training on my Church of England Safeguarding Training Portal account?	**No**, because the training will be linked to you and the certificate will be issued in your name rather than theirs. You can set up an account for someone using your email address, or a dedicated church one; you can find instructions to help with this here Safeguarding: Training Portal: About the Site, and Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) (cofeportal.org)

Why do bell ringers need to do safeguarding training?	The requirement for safeguarding training to be completed by bell ringers in Church of England contexts is not new, as with any other church related activity. The training is about trying to keep everyone safe and raising awareness so that any issues are spotted as soon as possible and people know what to do if something happens. The basic awareness and foundation training have some specific scenarios for bell ringers. It has been a requirement by the Central Council of Church Bell Ringers, CCCBR Safeguarding in Church of England Settings – CCCBR that bell ringers comply with the safeguarding training requirements for the Church of England and there has been communication about safeguarding training from the Leicester Diocesan Guild of Church Bell Ringers to make sure people are aware of this.