

## The Diocese in Europe

### The Chaplaincy of St. George's Church Barcelona

#### Our Chaplaincy's Safeguarding Policy

The protection from harm of children and adults who may be vulnerable is of paramount importance to us. As a chaplaincy within the Diocese of Europe, we comply fully with the requirements of the Diocese's Safeguarding Policy\*.

***We will not tolerate the abuse of children or adults in any form.***

Specifically, within our Chaplaincy we are committed to:

- The care, nurture, and respectful pastoral ministry of all children, young persons and adults
- The safeguarding and protection of all children, young persons and adults who may be vulnerable
- The establishing of safe, caring communities which provide a loving environment where there is a culture of 'informed vigilance' as to the dangers of abuse.
- The careful selection and training of all those with any safeguarding responsibility within the Church, including the use of available criminal records disclosures and relevant vetting and barring schemes.
- Preventing abuse or the likelihood of abuse by encouraging and adopting a proactive stance to safeguarding; responding to the slightest concern whether by rumour, speculation or from an anonymous source – every safeguarding concern will be taken seriously.
- Ensuring that any concern about safeguarding **must** be passed onto someone in the Diocesan Safeguarding Team as there are no legal barriers to sharing such concerns.
- Responding without delay to every complaint made which suggests that a child, young person or adult may have been harmed - co-operating with the local police, relevant local agencies and any other relevant body (eg other faith groups) in any investigation.
- Seeking to work with anyone who has suffered abuse, developing with them an appropriate ministry of informed pastoral care.
- Seeking to challenge any abuse of power, especially by anyone in a position of trust.
- Seeking to offer pastoral care and support, including supervision and referral to the proper authorities, to any member of our church community known to have offended against a child, young person or vulnerable adult.

You will find details on how we action our policy and useful contact information on the following pages. If you have any queries please speak to the Chaplaincy Safeguarding Officer, Claire Tilley ([claire.tilley68@gmail.com](mailto:claire.tilley68@gmail.com))

Signed..... Chaplain dated.....

Signed..... Warden dated.....

*\*For information, you can find the detailed diocesan policy, and how it is implemented across all chaplaincies in the diocese, on the internet at the following link:*  
<http://europe.anglican.org/what-we-do/safeguarding>

## HOW DO WE ACTION OUR POLICY?

This page provides a summary on how we action our safeguarding policy. In the subsequent appendices you will find the more detailed information. If you have any queries please speak to our Chaplaincy Safeguarding Officer

### **What do we mean by 'Abuse'?**

The groups of concern include children and young people under the age of 18 who are vulnerable because of their age and life experience and also adults who may be vulnerable for a variety of reasons including a disability, an illness or their advanced years. The nature of the abuse can include playing on people's emotions, neglecting their needs, physical or sexual assault. You can find more about this at the Diocesan website (as referenced in **Appendix 6**).

### **We all have a responsibility to safeguard children and adults.**

Everyone in the chaplaincy has a responsibility to help to ensure that children and adults are not subject to abuse in any form. It is important that if we believe that abuse is occurring that we report this to the appropriate people so that the matter can be properly dealt with. Information on how to report problems is given later in this document.

As well as these general needs there are a number of people who have special responsibilities for safeguarding. These are:

- **Chaplains** whose special responsibilities are explained in **Appendix 1**
- **Chaplaincy Wardens** whose special responsibilities are explained in **Appendix 2**
- **Chaplaincy Councils** whose special responsibilities are explained in **Appendix 3**
- **The Chaplaincy Safeguarding Officer** who is responsible for the overall coordination of safeguarding in the Chaplaincy. Details of their responsibilities are given in **Appendix 4**. If you have any worries or concerns about our safeguarding policy or any worries about someone being abused please speak to them in absolute confidence. *(NB the Chaplaincy Safeguarding Officer is identified and appointed by the Chaplaincy Council).*

### **People in our Chaplaincy who work with children and vulnerable adults**

People who work with children and adults who may be vulnerable may be required to be checked to ensure that they have no history which may make them unsuitable for that role. The detailed process explaining who needs to be checked (and why this is necessary) and for obtaining checks is explained in the Diocesan Safeguarding Policy (as referenced in **Appendix 6**).

### **Other groups who use our premises**

Other (ie non Chaplaincy) groups who use our premises for activities involving children, young people and adults who may be vulnerable must either:

- Have their own policy in place which must include all of the diocesan requirements; or
- Commit themselves to following our policy at all times whilst using our premises.

Further information is given in **Appendix 5**.

### **Reporting suspected Abuse**

Everyone has a responsibility to be vigilant to spotting incidents of abuse. If you become aware of abuse in any form please tell the Chaplaincy Safeguarding Officer (or the Chaplain, a Warden, the Area Dean or Archdeacon) as soon as you can. If you would prefer, you can call the diocesan confidential telephone line **+44 (0)207 898 1163** and leave a message as to your concerns. The Diocesan Safeguarding team will get back to you as soon as possible.

The diocese will then ensure that the concerns are properly investigated and will let you know what the outcome is.

In addition it is of course your right and duty as a citizen to inform the local law enforcement agencies where you believe a criminal offence has been committed.

### **Further information**

Useful additional information, and how it may be accessed, is given in **Appendix 6**