



3. Safeguarding Training Policy

Since March 2013, Government guidance has explicitly stated that faith organisations are expected to adhere to the same standards as statutory organisations within the safeguarding sector, such as adult/children's services, police, health and education.

The aim of this policy is to ensure that church workers and volunteers are able to provide a caring Christian environment in which everyone is respected, protected and feels safe.

To achieve these aims, our church

- expects members of its congregation to undertake safeguarding training courses provided by the Oxford Diocese which are appropriate to their role and to refresh their training every 3 years.
- will take part in the Diocesan annual training needs analysis that identifies all Church officers (ordained/lay/paid/unpaid) who require training and develops a training plan based on this analysis.
- understands that church core safeguarding training modules are designed to situate safeguarding practice within the unique context of the church and provide participants with the opportunity to relate their learning to their faith and for these reasons, no accreditation is given against the core safeguarding training modules for prior learning.

The exception to this is where prior safeguarding training has been completed under the training framework of The Methodist Church (either Foundation or Advanced Modules), as safeguarding training completed under this framework has been viewed by the National Safeguarding Team and judged to be equivalent to the Foundation and Leadership training offered by the Church of England.