Local church safeguarding coordinator training

What's my role in Creating a SAFER CHURCH for all?

The Presbyterian Church of Wales | Undeb Bedyddwyr Cymru The Baptist Union of Wales | The Union of Welsh Independents | Panel Diogelu Cydenwadol Interdenominational Safeguarding Panel

Welcome and thank you

- Thank you for being willing to take on or consider this important role in your local church.



Safeguarding coordinator

BY THE END OF THE SESSION…

Safeguarding coordinator

You should have a greater understanding of:

- the main responsibilities of the coordinator role
- your safeguarding policy
- the safer recruitment and DBS process
- what records you need to hold
- What are the first steps to take if you have a safeguarding concern



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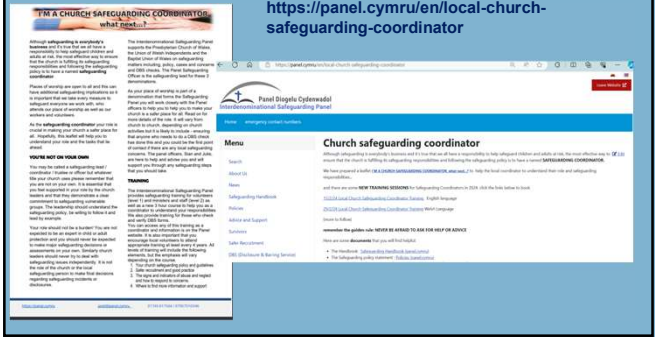
YOU ARE NOT ON YOUR OWN!

There is lots of help and guidance available to assist you in your role.

Today we'll be making sure you know where to find information and where to turn for help.



SAFEGUARDING COORDINATOR 5



https://panel.cymru/en/local-church-safeguarding-coordinator

I'M A LOCAL CHURCH SAFEGUARDING COORDINATOR

What do I need to know?

What do I need to do?

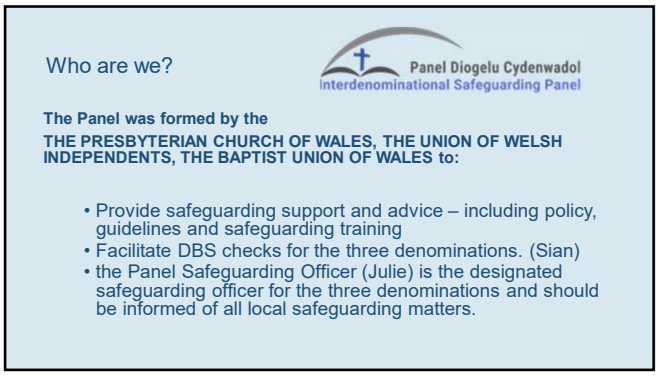


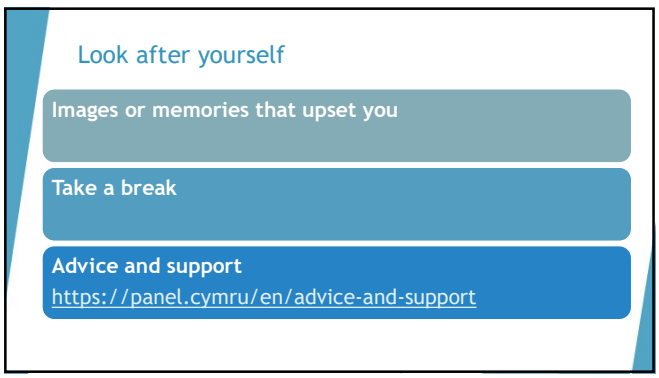
Safeguarding coordinator 7


What do I need to KNOW?
Some basic knowledge about safeguarding and your policy and procedures.


What do I need to DO?
Help to make safeguarding policy a reality in your church and keep safeguarding on the agenda locally
Make sure volunteers are recruited safely, have attended training and some associated admin.
Take some first steps and keep some records if there are concerns.


What it's NOT!
...as a SAFEGUARDING CO-ORDINATOR
you are not expected to be a safeguarding superhero or expert in child or adult protection
- leave that to the statutory agencies and remember that the Safeguarding Panel is here to help and support you in your role!


Who are we?
Panel Diogelu Cydenwadol
Interdenominational Safeguarding Panel
The Panel was formed by the
THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF WALES, THE UNION OF WELSH INDEPENDENTS, THE BAPTIST UNION OF WALES to:
• Provide safeguarding support and advice – including policy, guidelines and safeguarding training
• Facilitate DBS checks for the three denominations. (Sian)
• the Panel Safeguarding Officer (Julie) is the designated safeguarding officer for the three denominations and should be informed of all local safeguarding matters.


Look after yourself
Images or memories that upset you
Take a break
Advice and support
https://panel.cymru/en/advice-and-support


TODAY'S AGENDA
What is safeguarding
5 key safeguarding principles of a safer church
4 elements of the role:
1. Your safeguarding policy
2. Safer recruitment and DBS
3. Responding to concerns- brief overview
4. Raising awareness

TRAINING

Today we will be focussing on the practical and administrative elements of the coordinator's role.

This is not a comprehensive 'safeguarding' training session where we look in depth at signs and symptoms of abuse and neglect.

You can also attend the level 1 course for volunteers (2.5 hours)

We also run a level 2 6-hour staff and minister training session.

We recommend that all vulnerable groups workers and volunteers complete the online Group A e-learning course

https://panel.cymru/en/training

What is Safeguarding?

SAFEGUARDING INVOLVES…

…creating a safe and welcoming environment, where everyone is respected and valued.

It's about making sure your organisation is run in a way that actively prevents harm, harassment, bullying, abuse and neglect.

It's also about being ready to respond safely and well if there is a problem.

Everyone in the organisation has a role to play in safeguarding.

It should become part of your day-to-day activities.

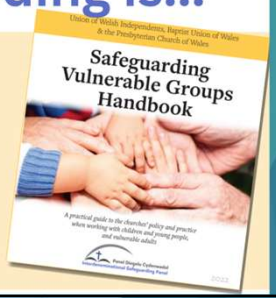


National Council for voluntary organisations

https://www.ncvo.org.uk/help-and-guidance/safeguarding

Safeguarding is…

PROTECTING vulnerable people from abuse, neglect and harm.
RECOGNISING the signs and symptoms of abuse and RESPONDING appropriately.
It is PREVENTATIVE as well as PROTECTIVE and involves PROVIDING SAFE ACTIVITIES and APPROPRIATE CARE.



SAFEGUARDING is

- PREVENTATIVE as well as PROTECTIVE
- There is no requirement for abuse or neglect to have occurred before deciding to take action.
- You need to consider who may be at risk and act to keep them safe.



SAFEGUARDING AND THE CHURCH…

… Safeguarding is not just about ensuring people are not mistreated but should inspire the church to engage in constructive action on their behalf to reduce vulnerability and any risks to them.

A robust theology of safeguarding is a gift to the church. Like an unbreakable compass in a storm, it keeps us travelling safely in the right direction without deviation or distraction.



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The theology of safeguarding

https://thirtyoneeight.org/media/mstpjfi0/theology-of-safeguarding.pdf

CHARITY COMMISSION FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

"Safeguarding should be a governance priority for every charity"

www.gov.uk/guidance/safeguarding-duties-for-charity-trustees.cy

Appendix 7
CHARITY TRUSTEES

- New information in the 2022 Handbook.
- Share information about the safeguarding responsibilities of charity trustees.
- Clear directions on how to comply with the safeguarding policy and Charity Commission requirements.

https://panel.cymru/en/safeguarding-vulnerable



5.
All know how to REPORT CONCERNS

4.
HEALTHY CULTURE that is transparent and supportive

3.
Consider who may be AT RISK and act to keep them safe

2.
The church takes SAFEGUARDING seriously
e.g. a named safeguarding person, leaders prioritise safeguarding

1.
Clear POLICIES and PROCEDURES
recruitment, best practice, reporting concerns

The coordinator's role

A. SAFEGUARDING COORDINATOR

1. Make sure that all relevant and eligible persons working with children and vulnerable adults /adults at risk have an up to date (4 yearly) DBS check and have attended training. Maintain a confidential record of all volunteers noting dates of DBS checks and ensure renewals are completed. Liaise with the Panel office on DBS matters and receive notifications of completed DBS from the Panel.
2. Ensure all safeguarding concerns or allegations are reported to the Panel Safeguarding Officer promptly. Liaise with the panel safeguarding officer when there are safeguarding concerns or matters in the church.
3. In an emergency, report allegations and concerns promptly to the police or social services.
4. Liaise with external agencies where necessary.
5. Ensure any agreements or risk assessments to manage persons who may pose a risk are managed and monitored locally. Liaise with the panel safeguarding officer.
6. Report to the church meeting on safeguarding issues in a general and awareness raising manner without compromising confidentiality.

Safeguarding coordinator 27

The coordinator's role

1. Policy
2. Safer Recruitment and DBS checks
3. Safeguarding concerns and allegations
4. Raise awareness

The coordinator's role:



1. POLICY

Safeguarding coordinator 29

Why do we need a safeguarding policy?

Having a safeguarding policy sends a message that we honour and respect people as individuals and that abuse is not tolerated.

A policy helps us to talk about safeguarding..

Why do we need a safeguarding policy?

The policy enable us to formally put processes in place to create a safer church:

- ✓ Protect vulnerable groups
- ✓ Protect staff and volunteers
- ✓ To make sure we are clear how to respond appropriately to allegations and concerns
- ✓ Meet the requirements of the Charity Commission, statutory authorities and insurance companies

Our Safeguarding Policy Statement

Our Policy* is to safeguard the welfare of children, young people and vulnerable adults by protecting them from neglect and physical, sexual and emotional harm.

As churches we are fully committed to safeguarding the welfare of our members and those placed in our care.

Page 20/40

*UWI, BUW PCW

Our Safeguarding Policy Statement

The church will care for and safeguard children, young people and vulnerable adults by following good practice in relation to the following:

- Responding appropriately to concerns and allegations
- Safer recruitment of workers and volunteers
- Promoting good working practices
- Train and support their employees in their role and in protecting vulnerable groups

page 9/ 26/46


Our Safeguarding Policy Statement

Local Church Safeguarding Policy Statement

- A clear statement of a churches commitment to safeguarding.
- Should be displayed locally.
- In line with best practice and helps you to meet charity commission and insurance company requirements.
- Contains details of safeguarding roles and responsibilities in the local church.
- Section 1 in the handbook and online.

https://panel.cymru/en/policies-and-information

the bigger picture

Our policy and procedures

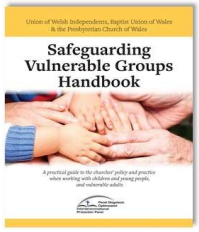
Welsh / UK legislation and procedures

Social Services and Wellbeing (Wales) Act 2014

Wales Safeguarding Procedures 2020

Other legislation e.g.:
Children Act 1989 and 2004,
- UNCRC 1989 1989
- Human rights Act 1998

- Protection of Freedoms Act 2012
- Safeguarding Vulnerable Groups Act 2006
- The Rehabilitation of Offenders Act 1974
- Data Protection Act 2018 & GDPR UK



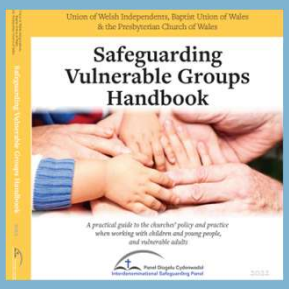
Trefniadau Diogelu Cymru Safeguarding Procedures Wales

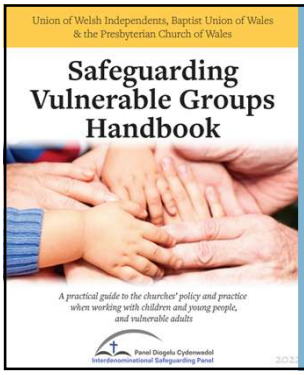
https://www.safeguarding.cymru



- More detailed safeguarding information
- Now easily available to all via the app or website

All of the key information you need is in the handbook





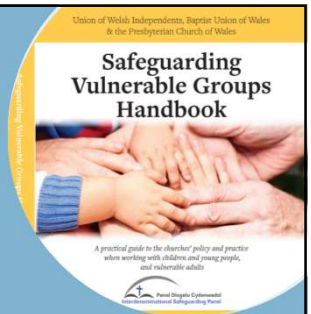
Our policy and procedures:

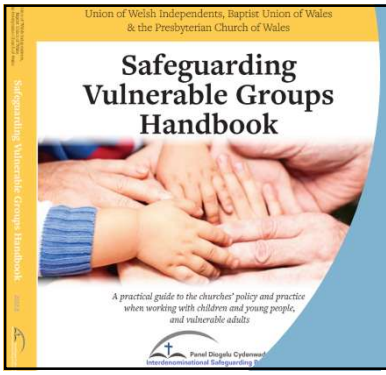
PROTECTING
- *Understanding the signs and symptoms*
- *Know how to respond*
- *Know where to turn for support*

PROVIDING SAFE ACTIVITIES & PREVENTING HARM
- *Working in line with best practice with vulnerable groups*
- *Safer recruitment and selection practices*

In the Handbook...

1. Introduction
2. Safer Recruitment and Selection
3. Children and Young People
4. Vulnerable Adults
5. Pastoral Care
6. Appendices
7. Forms





Handbook updates 2023:

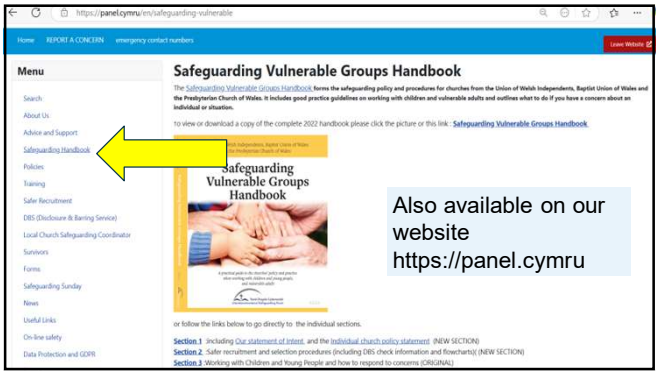
- **Section 1:Church policy statement**
- **Section 2: Safer recruitment and DBS**
- **Section 6:New appendices:**

Handbook updates 2023

Section 6 new appendices

- 1 New contact information
- 2a Code of conduct for volunteers
- 4 Risk assessments
- 7 Charity trustees' safeguarding responsibilities
- 8 Photograph guidance- using images of children
- 9 Definitions
- 10 Self assessment checklist tool





Notices

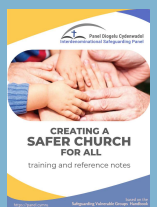


Notices

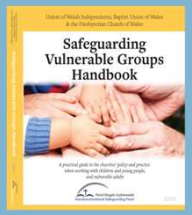


GOOD PRACTICE

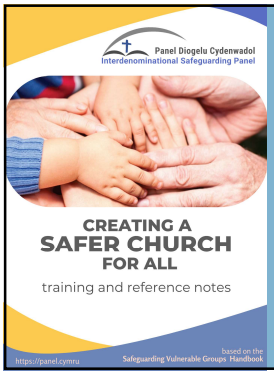
is key to creating a
SAFE ENVIRONMENT and PREVENTING things from going wrong



The information booklet



Section 3 and 4 of the handbook



Page
5 What is safeguarding?
5 Policy statement
6 Safer recruitment and selection
7 Good practice principles
8 Working with children and young people
9 Working with vulnerable adults /adults at risk
10 Good practice checklist
11 Completing a risk assessment
12 Categories and signs of abuse in children
14 Signs of abuse in vulnerable adults /adults at risk
16 Initial response to a concern or allegation
17 How to respond if someone discloses abuse
18 What next? Test your knowledge
19 Your local situation - how are you doing?
Resources and sources of support
What to do if you hear, see or suspect something

The coordinator's role:



2. Safer Recruitment and DBS checks

The coordinator's role

1. Make sure that all relevant and eligible persons working with children and vulnerable adults /adults at risk have an up to date (4 yearly) DBS check and have attended training. Maintain a confidential record of all volunteers noting dates of DBS checks and ensure renewals are completed. Liaise with the Panel office on DBS matters and receive notifications of completed DBS from the Panel.



SAFER RECRUITMENT

- A key part of our safeguarding toolkit
- Making sure the right people are caring for children and vulnerable adults
- Focus of IICSA and best practice
- More than just a DBS
- Local churches must take responsibility.

Section 2 in the handbook and online https://panel.cymru/en/recruiting-volunteers

Our volunteers can be our greatest safeguarding asset…

- Safer recruitment
- Code of conduct
- Training
- Support



This Photo by Unknown Author is licensed under CC BY-SA

If your local supermarket was hiring new staff, what steps would you expect them to take?



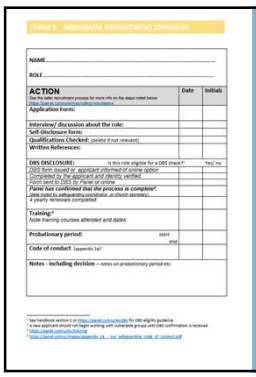
- Would these steps apply if your church was looking for new **Sunday school teachers or someone to bring local care home residents to church?**
- Would you need to do anything else?



Safer Recruitment Process for volunteers

1. 'Volunteer form' or Application Form
2. 'Self-Declaration Form'
3. Informal conversation about the post
4. 'Disclosure and Barring Service' (DBS)
5. Securing references from two independent referees
6. Appropriate training /support

Section 2 in the handbook and online https://panel.cymru/en/recruiting-volunteers

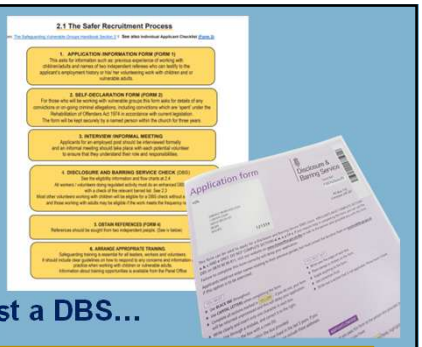


Form 3 RECRUITMENT CHECKLIST

- Promote and facilitate compliance with the safer recruitment policy.
- Guides you step by step through the process.
- Clear record of steps taken.

Safer recruitment: https://panel.cymru/en/recruiting-volunteers
Section 7 (forms) in the handbook and online

SAFER RECRUITMENT



More than just a DBS…

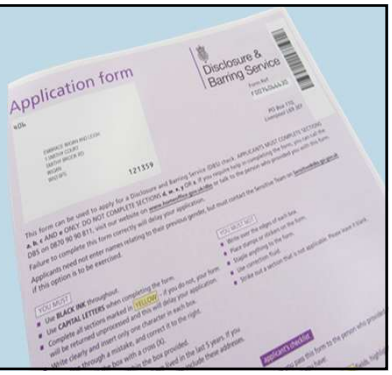
Section 2.1 /p 14 in the handbook and online https://panel.cymru/en/recruiting-volunteers

DBS checks: WHO?

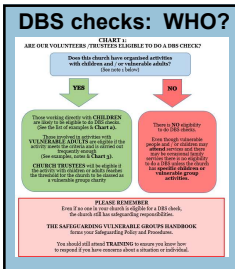
A DBS check is one of the ways we safeguard vulnerable groups as part of the safer recruitment process.

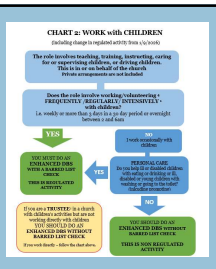
Handbook Section 2 Safer Recruitment

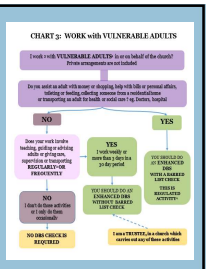
https://panel.cymru/en/dbs



DBS checks: WHO?







- The charts in section 2 of the handbook and on the Panel website will help you know who, if anyone, needs to do a check and at what level.
- Trustees are eligible if there is direct work with children or vulnerable adults happening in the church.
- We can't do a DBS just in case.

Section 2 Safer Recruitment





Is it REGULATED ACTIVITY?

People engaged in REGULATED ACTIVITY MUST do an enhanced DBS check with a check of the relevant barred list.

It is illegal to allow a barred person to engage in regulated activity

There are different criteria for adults and children

Section 2 p 17 in the handbook

If your volunteers are doing the activities below in relation to their work with **VULNERABLE ADULTS** in the church they are engaged in **REGULATED ACTIVITY**

1. Personal care: You help someone with washing and dressing, eating, drinking and toileting (this could be prompting).

2. Assistance with household affairs: You provide assistance to an adult because of their age, illness or disability, where it includes managing their cash, paying bills, or shopping on their behalf.

3. Assistance with the Conduct of Affairs: Power of attorney/Deputies appointed under the Mental Capacity Act.

4. Transporting an adult for health, personal or social care due to age, illness or disability. This could be to a hospital appointment or collecting someone from a residential care home.

For the activities noted above there is no frequency requirement for adults



and MUST do a DBS check (with a check of the barring list):

If your volunteers/ trustees aren't doing regulated activity but are



❑ **regularly visiting or doing pastoral work with vulnerable adults***

*__regularly__ means at least once a week on an ongoing basis, or takes place on more than 3 days in any period of 30 days, or overnight 2am- 6am)) or are a trustee in a church which has organised work with vulnerable adults

❑ **a Trustee of a Church which organises specific activities** for vulnerable adults***

(this means that your church can be classed as a vulnerable adult's charity for DBS purposes)

*__vulnerable adult__ means: those who need help because of their **age, illness, disability** or live in certain types of accommodation - (e.g., prison, residential care home etc.).

**Having vulnerable adults attending normal church services does not qualify,

They are eligible to have an enhanced DBS check (without a check of the barred list)

If your volunteers are doing the activities below in relation to their work with **CHILDREN** in the church they are engaged in **REGULATED ACTIVITY**

1. Personal care: You help a child with washing and dressing, eating, drinking and toileting. (this could be prompting) *Doing this only once is regulated activity*

2. Teaching, supervising, training children or advice/guidance on well-being* (at least weekly)

2. Day to day management of a person providing regulated activity to a child*

3. Specified establishment e.g. education, childcare premises or care home

For the activities noted above* there is a frequency requirement
i.e. at least once a week on an ongoing basis, or more than 3 days in any 30 day period, or overnight 2am- 6am

From 1st September 2026 the supervision exemption has been removed so all those working frequently enough are doing regulated activity regardless of whether they are supervised or not



and MUST do a DBS check (with a check of the barring list):

If your volunteers/ trustees aren't doing regulated activity but are…



teaching, supervising , training or providing advice / guidance on well-being to children.

❑**Less than weekly**

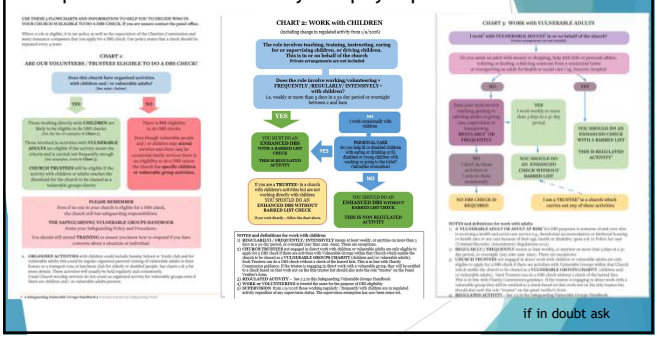
❑**a trustee of a Church which organises children's activities**

(this means that your church can be classed as a children's charity for DBS purposes)

They are eligible to have an enhanced DBS check (without a check of the barred list)

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Don't panic - the charts should take you step by step



if in doubt ask

DBS checks: 2 options





A. Online

B. Paper form

both still require I.D. verification

This can be digital for online applications (for an additional fee of £5.50)

A. Online : Working with thirtyone:eight

https://panel.cymru/en/dbs

1. Applicant completes **JOTFORM FORM 1** to start the process.
This gives us the information to ensure the role is eligible for a DBS and to ascertain what level of check

2. Applicant receives a link from thirtyone:eight to complete their DBS application online.
An email reminder will be sent every 5 days until the process is complete.

3. The applicant meets a Panel verifier to show 3 ID documents. (or do this online for a fee of £5.50)
The verifier completes FORM 2 noting details of the ID documents seen.
This should be sent / scanned to the panel office.

4. The applicant receives their paper certificate through the post.
They DONT NEED to send the certificate to the office, unless we request this, but should show the certificate to the local coordinator

5. The panel will inform the coordinator that the process is complete. They *should record the date, level and workforce of the certificate.* The coordinator ensures a 4-year renewal for all eligible volunteers

A. Paper form https://panel.cymru/en/dbs

1. Local church coordinator contacts the office requesting a paper form.
You can also ask for a supply to use locally.

2. Applicant completes the pink DBS form and makes an appointment with a Panel verifier or trained church officer to check 3 identity documents and complete the verifiers form.

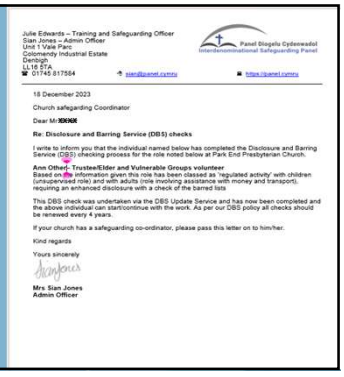
3. The verifier should complete the verifiers form included with the application form (or FORM 2 if Jotform 1 has already been completed). They should post both forms to the Panel office.

4. The applicant will receive a paper certificate through the post.
They must send their original paper certificate to the Panel office

5. The panel will inform the local safeguarding coordinator that the process is complete
they should record the date and level of the certificate locally. Check should be renewed every 4 years

DBS confirmation letter

- Until you receive this letter the process is not complete
- Volunteers should not begin the role until you have received this confirmation
- Please keep a record of all your volunteers DBS check dates



Julie Edwards – Training and Safeguarding Officer
Sian Jones – Admin Officer
Unit 1 Vale Parc
Colomendy Industrial Estate
Denbigh
LL16 5TA
01745 817584

Panel Diogelu Cydenwadol Interdenominational Safeguarding Panel

18 December 2023

Church safeguarding Coordinator

Dear Mr XXXX

Re: Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) checks

I write to inform you that the individual named below has completed the Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) checking process for the role noted below at Park End Presbyterian Church:

Ann Other- Trustee/Elder and Vulnerable Groups volunteer
Based on the information given this role has been classed as 'regulated activity' with children (unsupervised role) and with adults (role involving assistance with money and transport), requiring an enhanced disclosure with a check of the barred lists

This DBS check was undertaken via the DBS Update Service and has now been completed and the above individual can start/continue with the work. As per our DBS policy all checks should be renewed every 4 years.

If your church has a safeguarding co-ordinator, please pass this letter on to him/her.

Kind regards

Yours sincerely

Mrs Sian Jones
Admin Officer

DBS Update Service

- Many ask if they can re-use a certificate they have obtained with another role e.g. teacher.
- This **may** be possible **if** they have subscribed to the update service and the role is at the same level (enhanced with barred list check or not) and with the same workforce type (children or adults or both).
- Applicant subscribes online within 30 days of a new DBS certificate – must be renewed annually. free for volunteers and £16 per year for paid employees
- You cannot use a DBS check you have obtained in a voluntary role for a paid role
- An info sheet and consent form on our website will take you through the process step by step/
- https://panel.cymru/images/update_service_-_website_2025.pdf



Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS)
Update service consent form

Step 1 Details of the applicant and the role



Information sheet

THE DBS UPDATE SERVICE

Can I use a DBS certificate I have from another role?

https://panel.cymru/images/update_service_-_website_2025.pdf



DBS checks: Verifiers

- If there are no local verifiers – and you are willing to become a verifier for your church (or other local churches), please contact the office and we can go through a simple verifiers training session with you.
- This explains which documents you need to see and makes sure that we are complying with the DBS code of conduct.

Open the book

- The Open Book safeguarding policy and church safeguarding policies work together e.g. DBS
- Also need to comply with school safeguarding policy – report on concerns about children to school
- Concerns about volunteers should be reported to the Panel

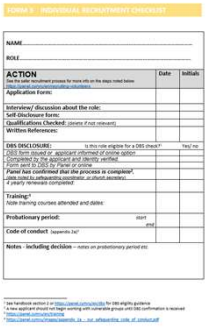


https://www.biblesociety.org.uk/get-involved/open-the-book/get-started/ebb-safeguarding-information/

2. Safer Recruitment and DBS checks

RECORDS

SAFEGUARDING COORDINATOR 73



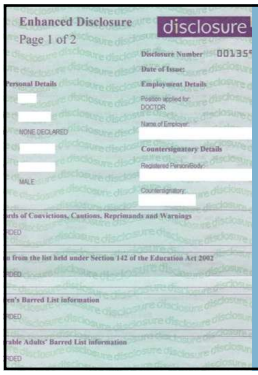
Form 3 RECRUITMENT CHECKLIST

Guides you step by step through the process

Provides a clear record of steps taken

Safer recruitment: https://panel.cymru/en/recruiting-volunteers

Section 7 (forms) in the handbook and online

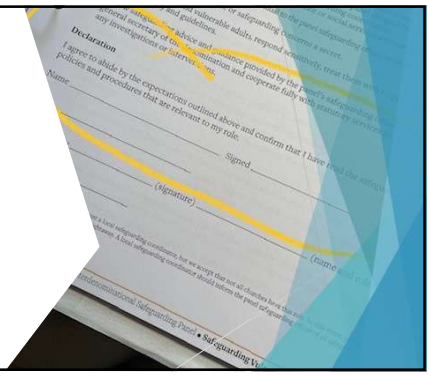


DBS

- Keep a record of the dates of all your volunteers /staff DBS checks.
- monitor renewals etc.
- Do not keep copies of certificates.

Appendix 2a CODE OF CONDUCT

- It will help a volunteer to understand safeguarding expectations.
- It gives the local church a record of commitment.
- Promotes good practice.



The coordinator's role



3. safeguarding concerns and allegations

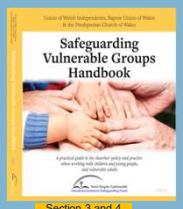
Safeguarding coordinator 77

The coordinator's role

2. Ensure all safeguarding concerns or allegations are reported to the Panel Safeguarding Officer promptly. Liaise with the panel safeguarding officer when there are safeguarding concerns or matters in the church.
3. In an emergency, report allegations and concerns promptly to the police or social services.
4. Liaise with external agencies where necessary.
5. Ensure any agreements or risk assessments to manage persons who may pose a risk are managed and monitored locally. Liaise with the panel safeguarding officer.
6. Report to the church meeting on safeguarding issues in a general and awareness raising manner without compromising confidentiality.

RESPONDING TO CONCERNS

Step by step guidance can be found in:





Section 3 and 4

page 12-17

Not covered in detail in this course because of time restraints.

Also covered in level 1 and level 2 training



What to do …

if you
SEE, HEAR OR SUSPECT
that a
CHILD or VULNERABLE ADULT

has suffered or is at risk of

ABUSE, NEGLECT OR HARM

New pocket sized cards – available from the panel office

Back page of your booklet

Categories of abuse and possble signs

CHILDREN

- Physical
- Sexual
- Emotional
- Neglect



• Page 33– Handbook Page 12/13 booklet

Categories of abuse and possble signs

Vulnerable adults

- Physical
- Sexual
- Psychological
- Financial/ Material
- Neglect
- *Institutional*



• Page 52– Handbook Page 14/15 booklet

If you HEAR, SEE or SUSPECT that a CHILD or VULNERABLE ADULT has suffered, or is at risk of suffering ABUSE, NEGLECT or HARM

Make a careful note of what you have been told or what you have seen or suspect

999

If someone is in IMMEDIATE DANGER: Contact the police or social services duty team without delay

For all other concerns: SEEK ADVICE

Panel safeguarding officer 07957510346

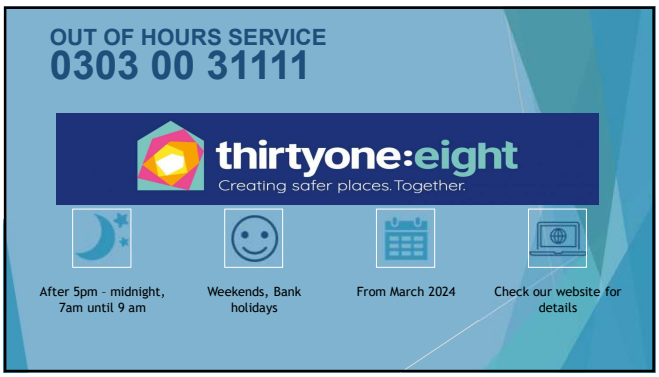
Out of hours call Thirtyone:eight 0303 003 1111
Or visit our website for more sources of support
https://panel.cymru/en/advice-and-support

Advice

If in doubt — call to get advice
Don't assume that someone else will take action or that the situation is not serious enough to act.
It's not up to you or the church to decide whether abuse has occurred

In each case let the Interdenominational Safeguarding Panel know about the situation and the actions you have taken

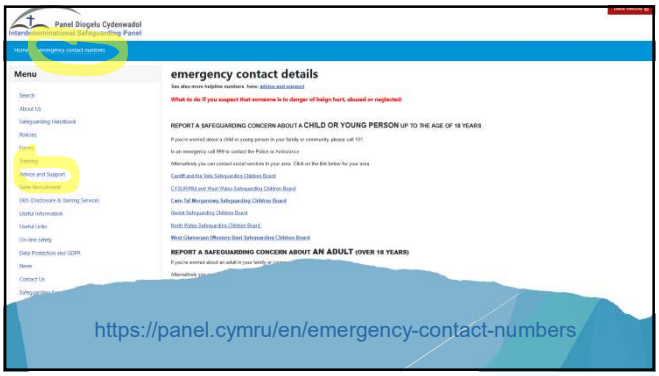

If you are concerned
about an individual or a situation,
call for advice
During office hours (9-5) please contact the Panel officers
01745 817584 / 07957 510346
post@panel.cymru* https://panel.cymru
Panel Diogelu Cydenwadol
Interdenominational Safeguarding Panel
Outside of office hours for urgent advice call:
0303 003 1111
thirtyone:eight
The Panel now has an out of office support agreement with thirtyone:eight covering evenings, weekends and bank holidays.
Please contact their safeguarding helpline for advice quoting Interdenominational Safeguarding Panel.
Please do not contact thirtyone: eight with any DBS queries
If you HEAR, SEE or SUSPECT that a CHILD, YOUNG PERSON or VULNERABLE ADULT has suffered, or is at risk of ABUSE, NEGLECT or HARM
MAKE A CAREFUL NOTE of what you have been told or what you have seen or suspect
999
If someone is in IMMEDIATE DANGER: contact the police, ambulance or social services duty team without delay
FOR ALL OTHER CONCERNS SEEK ADVICE
PANEL SAFEGUARDING OFFICER: 07957510346
For out of office hours advice call the THIRTYONE:EIGHT HELPLINE: 0303 003 1111
Or visit our website for more sources of support https://panel.cymru/en/advice-and-support
Advice
IF IN DOUBT — CALL TO GET ADVICE
Don't assume that someone else will take action or it's not serious enough to take action.
It's not up to you or the church to decide if abuse has taken place
In all cases let the Interdenominational Safeguarding Panel office know about the situation and action you have taken
https://panel.cymru/en/advice-and-support


OUT OF HOURS SERVICE
0303 00 31111
thirtyone:eight
Creating safer places. Together.
After 5pm - midnight, 7am until 9 am
Weekends, Bank holidays
From March 2024
Check our website for details


SAFEGUARDING
in this Church
...we take it seriously
If you have concerns about a child or vulnerable adult or need safeguarding help, information or advice
Panel Diogelu Cydenwadol
Interdenominational Safeguarding Panel
01745 817584 / 07957 510346
post@panel.cymru
Out of office hours (and weekends) call the thirtyone: eight helpline
0303 003 1111
thirtyone: eight
IN AN EMERGENCY : CALL 999
Visit the Panel website for more information or use the QR code to report a concern
https://panel.cymru
our local SAFEGUARDING COORDINATOR is :
There is always help and advice available
During Office hours
Out of Office hours/ weekends / Bank holidays
Report a concern in writing


Reporting
It's not up to you, the minister or the local church officers to decide if an allegation of abuse is true or not.
Your responsibility is to report the concern to the appropriate person.
If in doubt call for advice.


DUTY TO REPORT CONCERNS
The Social Services and Well-being (Wales) Act 2014 s.128, specifies the duty placed on practitioner 'relevant partners' to report both adults and children if they have reasonable cause to suspect are at risk of harm.
All those whose agencies are not included as 'relevant partners' above, are still expected to refer any safeguarding concerns in the same way as those with a specific Duty to Report.
https://safeguarding.wales/en/chi-i/chi-i-c2/c2-p4


Panel Diogelu Cydenwadol
Interdenominational Safeguarding Panel
Menu
emergency contact details
REPORT A SAFEGUARDING CONCERN ABOUT A CHILD OR YOUNG PERSON UP TO THE AGE OF 18 YEARS
REPORT A SAFEGUARDING CONCERN ABOUT AN ADULT (OVER 18 YEARS)
https://panel.cymru/en/emergency-contact-numbers

Sources of support

Appendix 1 in the handbook

Page 20 in the training booklet

https://panel.cymru/en/advice-and-support



4. safeguarding concerns and allegations

RECORDS



Records of concerns and allegations

- Inform the panel of all safeguarding matters and keep any notes confidentially and securely.
- The panel keeps detailed records of all incidents and will advise you what needs to be retained locally

What if a known offender or abuser seeks to join the church?

- The church has a responsibility to consider and respond to the risk and to protect vulnerable people. We also have an opportunity to provide support and care to the individual.
- The Panel's Safeguarding Officer should be included at the beginning of any response. We will work with the church and a relevant professionals from statutory agencies to assess the risk and implement a plan.

Handbook section 5.3 p59

- A contract of agreed behaviour may be put in place to facilitate the engagement of those who may present a risk to others.
- This is usually done in collaboration with the police or probation service.
- This agreement sets out the conditions required for the individual to engage with the Church; e.g. permitted activities, restrictions in relation to church buildings and interaction with other members of the community.
- It can also allow someone with a previous conviction to minimise the likelihood of future allegations by complying with the conditions that are agreed.
- Strict confidentiality is maintained throughout.

Managing those who might pose a risk





CONTACT THE PANEL SAFEGUARDING OFFICER WITH ANY CONCERNS OR DISCLOSURES

The coordinators role



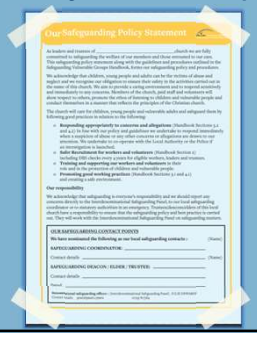
4. Raise awareness

Keep safeguarding on the agenda locally:

1. Policy document and poster is visible
2. Safeguarding is talked about in Church meetings
3. Encourage volunteers to attend training
4. Safeguarding Sunday
5. Safeguarding self assessment



1. Policy document and poster is visible


Our Safeguarding Policy Statement



2. Safeguarding is talked about in Church meetings

Report to the church business or AGM on safeguarding issues in a general and awareness raising manner without compromising confidentiality.



3. Encourage volunteers to attend training

LEVEL 1 suitable for volunteers (2.5 hours)

LEVEL 2 for ministers, leaders and staff (6 hours)

Mainly online but some face to face may be available.

All booked online via the training page of our website:
https://panel.cymru/en/training
or our ticket source shop:
https://www.ticketsource.co.uk/interdenominational-safeguarding-panel-diogelu-cydenwadol



Level 1 Safeguarding Training Session

To help you to understand your safeguarding responsibility in your church context

Who needs to attend?
Essential for :
Sunday school teachers, youth workers, trustees, Elders, Deacons, pastoral visitor
BUT OPEN TO ALL

What's included?
We will look at:
- Your safeguarding policy
- How to respond to concerns
- Creating a safe environment
- Where to get advice and support

https://panel.cymru/en/training

Encourage volunteers to attend training

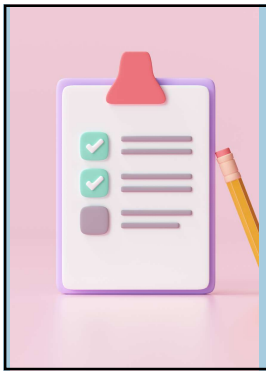
Gofal Cymdeithasol Cymru
Social Care Wales

- We comply with the National Safeguarding Training Standards for Wales which divides roles into 5 groups A-F .
- We recommend that all vulnerable groups workers and volunteers complete the **online Group A e-learning course** as soon as possible after commencing their role and before they do a level 1 or 2 Panel course.
- Short course developed by Social Care Wales free and convenient.
- Panel courses help to embed this Group A knowledge and understand denominational safeguarding policies and procedures.
- Group A Safeguarding | Social Care Wales

4. Safeguarding Sunday
some of the benefits



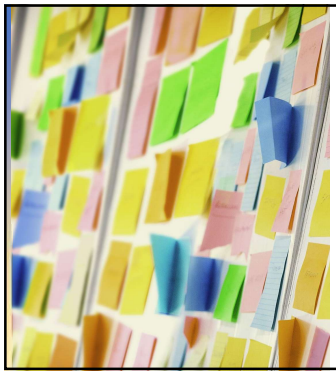
- better positive awareness of safeguarding among church members.
- increased numbers of people feeling able to talk about their abuse for the first time.
- additional people volunteering for safeguarding and children's and youth work roles.
- more people completing safeguarding training and criminal record checks.
- more safeguarding leads feeling supported in their role by the church.
- https://panel.cymru/en/safeguarding-sunday



SELF-ASSESSMENT SAFEGUARDING CHECKLIST

- Safeguarding
- Prevention
- Recognising and reporting
- Review
- Take action

https://panel.cymru/images/Appendix_10_Safeguarding_checklist.pdf



Next step ideas

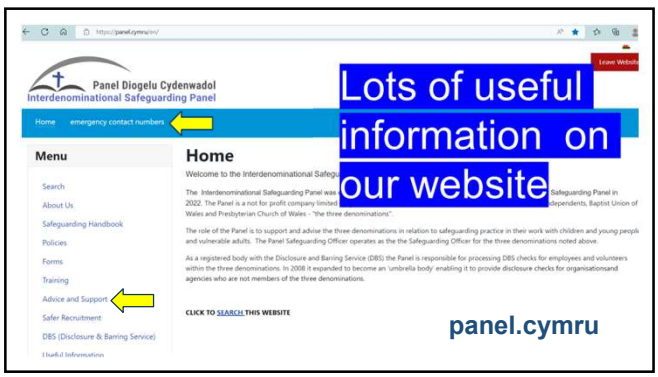
- Read through the handbook and training booklet
- Look at the activities in the booklet
- Work through the safeguarding checklist – appendix 10
- Make sure you have the up-to-date policy document and poster on display
- How about arranging a Safeguarding Sunday service this November?
- Arrange some training
- Check your volunteers' DBS status

Get in touch

- **01745 817584**
- **07957 510346**
- post@panel.cymru
- https://panel.cymru



Interdenominational Safeguarding Panel





THANK YOU FOR TAKING PART IN TODAYS TRAINING

And for all you do to make your church a safer place