

# An Introduction to Safeguarding for Covid 19 Stewards

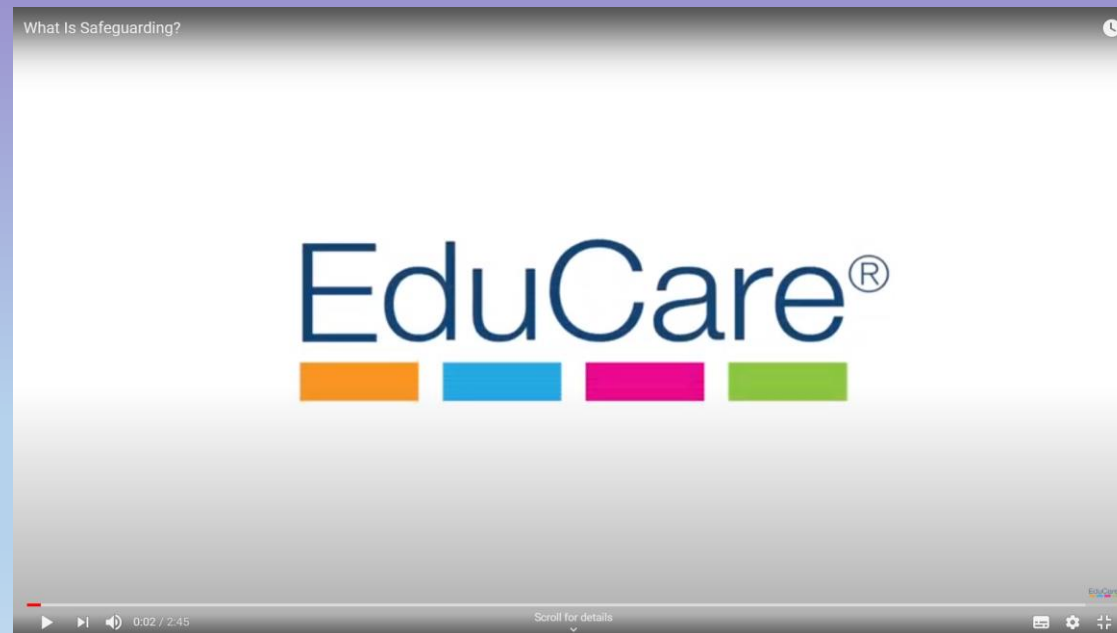
# Learning Outcomes

- Describe Role in Protecting the Vulnerable and Young
- Awareness of key safeguarding issues that are linked to the lockdown measures.
- Identify the Different Forms and Indicators of Abuse
- Understand Confidentiality Requirements of Safeguarding Matters
- Identify whom in the Church to approach regarding Safeguarding Concerns
- Understand that Support is available and how to Signpost
- Be confident to undertake the Mandatory E-learning Training Modules

# What is Safeguarding?

Safeguarding is a term to denote measures to protect the health, well-being and human rights of individuals, which allow people — especially children, young people and vulnerable adults — to live free from abuse, harm and neglect.

## A Short Video



**Exercise:**  
Can you name some strands  
that may fall under the  
umbrella of Safeguarding?

Sexual Offences

\*Domestic Abuse\*

Radicalization

Stalking and  
Harassment

\*Vulnerable  
Adults / Adults  
at Risk\*

\*Child Sexual / Online  
Exploitation \*

*Safeguarding Strands*

Honour based  
abuse

Forced Marriage

Missing persons

Female Genital  
Mutilation

\*Mental Health \*

Prostitution/vice

\*Poverty\*

Modern Slavery/  
Human Trafficking

Child Abuse /Neglect

\*Managing  
offenders\*

# Different Types of Abuse and Indicative Signs

| Physical   | Sexual  | Emotional   | Financial   | Neglect  |
|--|---|---|---|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Repeat bruising</li> <li>• Other injuries consistent with physical assault</li> <li>• Repeat hospital admissions for injuries</li> <li>• Wearing heavier make up to disguise bruising?</li> <li>• Weak explanation for how injuries occurred</li> <li>• Signs of fear and depression</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Oversexualised behaviour inappropriate for age and development stage.</li> <li>• Behaviour issues such as aggression, poor concentration, unexplained tantrums, bed wetting.</li> <li>• Unexplained avoidance of certain adults, displays of fear.</li> <li>• Health issues consistent with being sexually active such as UTI's, symptoms consistent with STI's</li> <li>• May drop hints that something is happening to them</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lack of Self confidence</li> <li>• Signs of depression</li> <li>• Frequent self criticism</li> <li>• Unable to make decisions alone</li> <li>• Never seen without another adult who seems to be their spokesperson</li> <li>• Overuse of the word 'sorry'</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Does not have access to own money</li> <li>• Appearance inconsistent with earning a salary</li> <li>• Frequent mentions of money going missing</li> <li>• Frequently using foodbanks and other resources</li> <li>• Frequently borrowing money</li> <li>• OR lending money.</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Extreme weight loss</li> <li>• Unkempt appearance</li> <li>• Frequently hungry</li> <li>• Constant accidents without adequate supervision</li> <li>• Child giving the impression they are a caregiver to an adult</li> <li>• Overly independent</li> <li>• Frequent absence from school, groups or activities</li> <li>• Signs of depression</li> </ul> |

# The 6 Key Principles

## 1. Empowerment

People being supported and encouraged to make their own decisions and informed consent.

## 2. Prevention

It is better to take action before harm occurs.

## 3. Proportionality

The least intrusive response appropriate to the risk presented.

## 4. Protection

Support and representation for those in greatest need.

## 5. Partnership

Local solutions through services working with their communities. Communities have a part to play in preventing, detecting and reporting neglect and abuse.

## 6. Accountability

Accountability and transparency in safeguarding practice

# Confidentiality, Data Protection and Mental Capacity

Confidentiality is of the utmost importance where Safeguarding is concerned. Why might this be? Discuss.....

- We are bound by the Data Protection Act 1998.
- In the course of volunteering you may have access to confidential information relating people connected with the Diocese. Such information is not to be disclosed to any person not authorised to receive it either during my volunteering or at any time after leaving the role.
- How would you feel if a volunteer of the church shared some personal information about you with another member of the church outside of the Safeguarding Department? Who would that person go on to tell?

The Social Care Institute for Excellence writes that:

- Adults have a general right to independence, choice and self-determination including control over information about themselves. In the context of adult safeguarding these rights can be overridden in certain circumstances.
- Emergency or life-threatening situations may warrant the sharing of relevant information with the relevant emergency services without consent.
- The law (Data Protection Act) does not prevent the sharing of sensitive, personal information **within** organisations, **IF** the information is confidential, but there is a safeguarding concern, sharing it may be justified.
- Frontline staff and volunteers should always report safeguarding concerns in line with their organisation's policy. \*Details on slide 10\*
- It is good practice to try to gain the person's consent to share information.
- The six safeguarding principles should underpin all safeguarding practice, including information-sharing.



# Mental Capacity

The CSAS Policy for Creating a Safe Environment includes information about Mental Capacity.

It States:

Decision making is an everyday activity for people of all ages. We value personal autonomy and as Catholics recognise that many aspects of our choices are guided by the Gospels and teachings of the Church.

Decision making covers everyday choices: what to wear; where to eat, as well as major decisions about medical treatment, financial affairs, keeping safe, where to live.

Some people because of age, disability or illness may be limited in their ability to make choices which can expose them to potential exploitation, and abuse.

We must be respectful of individuals and take a responsible and proportionate approach to safeguard their interests when decisions seem to be placing a person at risk of significant harm.

This is a complex area and the right course of action will depend on the unique characteristics and age of the person involved and their circumstances at the time.

Practice should be underpinned by the following key principles:

1. A presumption of capacity
2. Individuals being supported to make their own decisions
3. Unwise decisions
4. Best interests
5. Least restrictive option

*If a person is thought to be at significant risk and there is reasonable belief that they do not understand the circumstances giving rise to the risk, then the matter should be raised with the Safeguarding Representative, your Parish Priest or Safeguarding Office for advice.*

# What should I do if I become concerned or a disclosure of abuse is made to me?

- It is always helpful to gather information, essential would be the person raising the concern and the subject of the concern's name and contact details in order that follow up action can be made by Professionals.
- Remembering what you have learned about confidentiality and mental capacity choices, share your concern with the Parish Safeguarding Representative or Parish Priest who will know what to do about the information you are reporting. Your Local Safeguarding Representative details can be obtained from the Safeguarding Posters on the safeguarding Noticeboard.
- If the Safeguarding Representative or Parish Priest is not available, please contact the Diocesan Safeguarding Team  
Safeguarding Coordinator: Marie O'Donnelly 0114 2566454, 07909117964, [modonnelly@hallam-diocese.com](mailto:modonnelly@hallam-diocese.com)  
Assistant to the Safeguarding Coordinator: Jo Pearson, 0114 2566453, [jpearson@hallam-diocese.com](mailto:jpearson@hallam-diocese.com)
- If there is an IMMINANT risk of SERIOUS HARM to a child or vulnerable adult, dial 999 and report to the Police.
- ❖ Serious harm has been defined as 'behaviour of a violent or sexual nature which is life threatening and/or traumatic, and from which recovery, whether physical or psychological, may reasonably be expected to be difficult or impossible.

# You are not alone!

In England and Wales this mission of the Church is co-ordinated by Caritas Social Action Network (CSAN) which works in partnership with the network of organisations in the 22 dioceses in England and Wales including our own.

**Hallam Caring Services** works within this umbrella organisation as an affiliation of projects and organisations that serve the social needs in our Diocese including offering services to:

- Children and Vulnerable Adults
- Homeless People
- People with mental illness
- Families in poverty
- The elderly and the lonely
- Refugees and asylum seekers.

For more Information Visit <https://hallam-diocese.com/caritas/>

**Doncaster and Sheffield Deanery Counselling Services** Counselling in Doncaster is available for individuals and couples for anxiety, depression, relationships, bereavement, anger management. There is a fee of £25 per session (unwaged free of charge).

**Counselling Services for Men** We know that the relationship that some men have with their emotions can result in them feeling isolated and not talking to others when things are not going well, leaving them struggling to cope. Sharing your problems with another person and allowing them to support you can be beneficial to help get what is on your mind, out of your mind. Depressed, angry, frustrated, anxious, sad? Don't be alone with your feelings. Don't bottle them up or drink them away! It's ok not to feel ok! It's ok to ask for help.

To arrange an appointment contact Bernie Ware on 07980406198 Or email [caringservices@hallam-diocese.com](mailto:caringservices@hallam-diocese.com)

# Multi Agency Support

A wide range of resources exist to support individuals with specific safeguarding issues. I work closely with all agencies once I have consent to make referrals where needed. Some of these which may be useful for you to be aware of are:

**Domestic Abuse Agencies**

**Mental Health Crisis Teams**

**Alcohol Services**

**Substance Misuse Services**

**Sexual Violence Advocates**

I also work alongside a number of Statutory Agencies for Risk Management Purposes. These include:

**Children's Social Services**

**Adult Social Services**

**Local Authority Designated Officers**

**Mental Health Crisis Teams**

**Police and Public Protection Unit**

**National Probation Service**

**Home Office Immigration**

# Whose job is it anyway?

- *This is a story about four people named Everybody, Somebody, Anybody and Nobody.*
- There was an important job to be done and Everybody was sure that Somebody would do it.
- Anybody could have done it, but Nobody did it.
- Somebody got angry about that, because it was Everybody's job.
- Everybody thought Anybody could do it, but Nobody realised that Everybody wouldn't do it.
- It ended up that Everybody blamed Somebody, when Nobody did what Anybody could have.