



SAFEGUARDING NEWS

Archdiocese of St Andrews & Edinburgh 

Meet our new Safeguarding Advisor

A big welcome to Scott Mackenzie, *right*, who started work in the Safeguarding Team in January. Scott joins us from a senior leadership role in the Education sector and has a range of Church experience in safeguarding training, and as lead Safeguarding coordinator for the Archdiocesan Lourdes Pilgrimage. He said: "I am delighted to be joining the team and working with volunteers, PSC's, Trainers, Clergy and Staff and continuing the great work done by my predecessor Emma Boothroyd".



ANNUAL AUDITS - CLOSING DATE IS APPROACHING!

PARISHES, Religious Orders and Catholic Groups have to complete an audit each year to report on various aspects of Safeguarding arrangements. These audits are a vital part of our Safeguarding work as they allow us to see what is working well and what needs improved.

What is the deadline for the Audits?

The deadline for this year's audit is **17th February 2023**.

How do I complete the Audit?

Information was sent out previously to Parish Priests and Parish Safeguarding Coordinators. The Audit must be submitted online via an internet link that has been supplied. We have also supplied a PDF document with the questions on it but this document is only so that you can plan your return. The actual return must be done using the online link.

What happens after I've submitted it?

Once the audits are submitted, they will all be examined by the Archdiocese and then an improvement plan will be presented to the Trustees for approval.

Key purposes of the annual audit are to stimulate reflection on safeguarding practice and to provide an evidence-based platform on which to plan for improving practice.



- Source: SCSSA website

YOUR SAFEGUARDING TEAM

Scott Mackenzie, DSA

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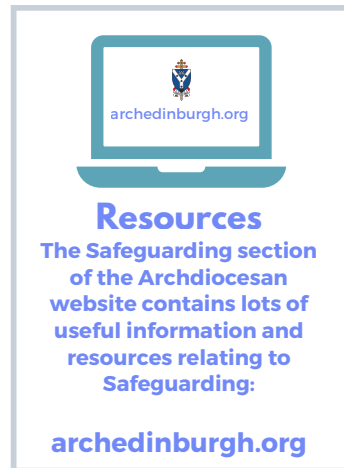


Upcoming training

YOU may have heard already but Safeguarding Part 2 Training has been suspended, pending a re-write of the course.

To see details of other training, please visit the Safeguarding Training page of the website.

Go to: archedinburgh.org
then click on
Safeguarding > Training



Questions and Answers

THIS section of the newsletter is dedicated to questions that have been received, which may be of use to all readers...



Q: Our parish gets a lot of enquiries about using the parish hall for celebrations, what should our parish be doing to ensure safeguarding standards are upheld in this situation?

A: We would recommend that you have each 'party' sign a 'Hall Let' document that outlines your parishes expectations for safeguarding and what the host is liable for.



You can find forms and templates on the website (archedinburgh.org) under "Administration" and then "Property" then tab down to "Resources"

Going on holiday? Let us know

A REMINDER that if you are going away on holiday and need supply for your parish to contact us well in advance. This is to check that the supplying priest has all of the necessary safeguarding paperwork in place. If in doubt, please contact us and we will be happy to help.

Your PVG update

THERE are quite a few clergy who are due to have their PVGs updated this year. This will also apply to any retired priests who still wish to supply. Please contact Margaret McCluskey in our Safeguarding Office who will be happy to arrange this for you. Her contact details are overleaf.

Anything else you would like to see in this newsletter?

THIS is your newsletter so please let us know of any topics that you would like to see included in future. Our next edition will be in Spring.

Safeguarding Concerns

If you are concerned about the welfare of a child or adult and believe them to be at immediate risk, do not delay in contacting the Police and/or the Social Work Team in your Local Authority.

It is the mandatory policy of the Catholic Church in Scotland to report all allegations of abuse to statutory authorities, regardless of whether the abuse occurred recently or in the past, or whether the accused person is living or dead.

You should refer allegations directly to **Scott Mackenzie** the Diocesan Safeguarding Adviser (DSA), unless someone is at immediate risk - in which case you should contact the police/social work first, and then follow up with the DSA.