



## Safeguarding of Children and Vulnerable Adults

The [Diocese of Peterborough](#) is implementing 'The Church of England Practice Guidance: Safer Recruitment' throughout the diocese. Each Parochial Church Council has to implement these procedures, including appointing tower captains and other volunteers. All towers with bells in the diocese, including those under the protection of the Churches Conservation Trust (CCT), will be covered. Local bands should familiarise themselves with the host tower requirements.

Through the Diocese, the PCC is responsible for obtaining free, DBS (Disclosing and Barring Service) check certificates for those carrying out face to face training of juniors and transporting juniors as a formal arrangement. A certificate can be used by ringers throughout the Diocese of Peterborough, not only in the initiating parish.

Everyone holding a DBS certificate should undertake safeguarding training and renew every three years. Procedures for this are being set up by the Diocese.

The Guild recommends these **minimum** guidelines at any ringing event:

- Children should be accompanied to Guild and Branch ringing events by DBS checked members of their local team or their parents.
- An attendance list is kept at ringing events.
- Two members are present, at least one will have a current DBS.
- Touching should only be that appropriate for teaching and in an emergency.
- If any ringers have concerns regarding safeguarding of children or vulnerable adults, they need to report it to the Diocesan Safeguarding Adviser, who will deal appropriately with any reports concerning ringers and will communicate with any parishes on a need-to-know basis.
- If there is concern of immediate danger to a child or vulnerable adult, telephone 999 (Police)

**A vulnerable adult** is a person aged 18 or over, who is or may be in need of community care services by reason of disability, age or illness; and who is or may be unable to take care or unable to protect him or herself against significant harm or exploitation.

**A child** is anyone who is under the age of 18.

*Approved by Guild Management Committee 10<sup>th</sup> March 2018*

*Our Safeguarding Adviser has asked for this additional information to be added (23<sup>rd</sup> March 2020):*

For anyone raising a concern of disclosing abuse about church officers, we recognise that contacting Bellringing leads, safeguarding officers / advisers may not feel safe for those with a lived experience of abuse from within the Church. A dedicated telephone helpline, operating independently from the Church, has therefore been set up. The number is 0800 80 20 20 and is being run by the NSPCC Helpline for Children and Adults.

The latest **Diocesan Safeguarding Newsletter** can be read and printed out from [here](#).

**Diocesan Safeguarding Training** information is available [here](#).

The Central Council of Church Bell Ringers have issued guidance on safeguarding that can be found on their [website](#)