



Youth Ministry in Communion
St Andrew's Church,
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SAFEGUARDING BEST PRACTICE GUIDANCE

The purpose of this document is to provide guidance for best safeguarding practice to partner parishes within the Youth Ministry in Communion network.

Expectations of Parishes

All participating parishes are expected to adhere to the safeguarding guidelines and policies produced by the their diocese and the wider Church of England, this includes the Parish Safeguarding Handbook.

You can find the handbook and other resources at www.churchofengland.org/safeguarding/policy-practice-guidance/templates-and-resources

Volunteers

Volunteers attending activities run by YMIC are expected to have been recruited following the Church of England's Safer Recruitment Guidance. This includes the volunteer having undergone:

- A DBS check
- References
- Basic and Foundation level safeguarding training (CofE)

YMIC requires that all parishes provide the details of DBS checks for volunteers attending events, including: volunteer's full name, DBS reference number and the date of issue. It is the parish's responsibility to keep safeguarding training and DBS checks up to date.

General & Youth Events

At general events & activities of YMIC (including the 3 annual big youth events), safeguarding becomes the responsibility of YMIC. Therefore, if a young person makes a disclosure at an event or an incident occurs, either the Project Lead or Project Chair should be informed (contact details below). We will then work with the Parish Safeguarding Officer (PSO) of St Andrew's Fulham Fields, the PSO of the appropriate parish of the young person (if relevant) and the Diocesan Safeguarding Team to resolve any safeguarding issue. Whilst St Andrew's (YMIC), hold's responsibility as the Safeguarding Lead at events, it will be appropriate for the young person's own parish to oversee ongoing pastoral care.

Project Lead, Jacob Holme: 07423 290078 or jacob@standrewsfulham.com

Project Chair, Revd Sam Rylands: 07523 006383 or vicar@standrewsfulham.com

At the YMIC youth events, it is often necessary to hire or purchase services or equipment from external organisations (e.g. pizza food truck) which means that DBS checks will not be appropriate. Thus, the risks will be identified and mitigated on a case-by-case basis with safeguards in place including such persons not being left alone with young people.

Travel to Youth Events

We would also strongly encourage parishes to follow the best practice guidance on travelling with young people, if you travel as a group to the youth events. For example, ensuring there is a minimum of 2 DBS checked adults or more (depending on the appropriate ratio).

*Youth Ministry in Communion is a project operated by The Parochial Church Council
of St Andrew's Fulham Fields (Registered Charity No. 1134166)*

Residential Events

Further considerations should be taken for residential youth activities. In addition to the above 'general & youth events' section, each residential trip will have a designated Safeguarding Lead with appropriate safeguarding leadership training. All disclosures and concerns should be directed to this person unless they are the one about whom a concern is being made.

Residentials must also follow guidance set out by the Church of England, which also includes all adult leaders having been recruited safely as above. Although, it is necessary that all leaders have undergone an 'enhanced DBS check' for the child workforce.