

Safeguarding Quiz: Protecting Our Church Community

How to Play:

1. Setup:

- Players form teams (or play individually).
- Cards are shuffled and placed in a draw pile.
- A facilitator reads the cards aloud.

2. Objective:

- Answer questions correctly to earn points.
- Each correct answer earns one point.
- Bonus points can be awarded for deeper discussion or elaboration.

3. Winning:

- The team or individual with the most points at the end wins.

Card Categories:

1. **Scenario Cards:** "What Would You Do?"
2. **Quiz Cards:** True/False or Multiple-Choice Questions.
3. **Reflection Cards:** Open-ended questions to spark discussion.
4. **Challenge cards (role playing) - optional**

Game Components:

- **Cards:** Printable cards for each category.
- **Scoreboard:** Optional board or sheet for tracking points.
- **Facilitator Guide:** Includes instructions, example answers, and discussion prompts.

Scenario Cards: What Would You Do?

1. **Card 1:**

You notice a child often seems withdrawn and avoids interacting with others at Sunday School. What steps would you take to address this?

Answer: Speak privately with the Sunday School leader or the parish safeguarding officer to share your concerns. Avoid direct questioning of the child or discussing the issue with others unnecessarily.

2. **Card 2:**

During a church event, you see an adult volunteer speaking inappropriately to a teenager. The teenager looks uncomfortable. What should you do?

Answer: Intervene calmly and discretely if safe to do so. Report the incident to the safeguarding officer immediately.

3. **Card 3:**

A vulnerable adult in the congregation confides in you that they feel pressured by a family member to give them money. How do you respond?

Answer: Listen with empathy and without judgment. Encourage them to speak to the safeguarding officer or offer to report the concern on their behalf.

4. **Card 4:**

You overhear a parent yelling at their child aggressively in the church hall. The child appears frightened. What action should you take?

Answer: Approach the situation calmly, if safe to do so, and check if the child is okay. Report your concerns to the safeguarding officer.

1. **Card 5:**

A new volunteer starts helping with the children's group but refuses to complete a DBS check, saying it's unnecessary. How should you respond?

Answer: Explain that safeguarding policies require all volunteers to complete a DBS check. Notify the safeguarding officer if the volunteer continues to resist.

2. **Card 6:**

You notice an elderly member of the congregation has unexplained bruises and seems fearful when discussing their caregiver. What should you do?

Answer: Report your concerns to the safeguarding officer immediately. Avoid confronting the caregiver directly.

3. **Card 7:**

A child asks you to keep a "secret" about something that happened at home. They seem anxious. How should you respond?

Answer: Gently explain that you can't promise to keep secrets if it involves their safety. Listen carefully and report the concern to the safeguarding officer.

4. **Card 8:**

During a youth event, you notice that one of the leaders seems to be spending excessive time alone with a particular child. What should you do?

Answer: Monitor the situation discreetly and report your concerns to the safeguarding officer. Ensure that safeguarding policies about supervision are followed.

Quiz Cards: True/False and Multiple Choice

Card 1:

True or False? All safeguarding concerns must be kept confidential and never reported unless there's clear evidence of abuse.

Answer: False. Safeguarding concerns should always be reported to the appropriate authority, even if there is no clear evidence.

Card 2:

Multiple Choice: Who should you report a safeguarding concern to first?

- A. The Church Warden
- B. The Parish Safeguarding Officer
- C. The Police
- D. Your Friend

Answer: B. The Parish Safeguarding Officer. (In an emergency, contact the police directly.)

Card 3:

True or False? A child disclosing abuse must be reassured but should not be asked detailed questions.

Answer: True. Reassure them and listen carefully but avoid probing for details.

Card 4:

Multiple Choice: Which of these is NOT a safeguarding responsibility?

- A. Reporting concerns about abuse or neglect.
- B. Providing financial advice to vulnerable adults.
- C. Ensuring volunteers are DBS-checked.
- D. Maintaining a safe physical environment in the church.

Answer: B. Providing financial advice to vulnerable adults.

Card 5:

True or False? Safeguarding is only the responsibility of the safeguarding officer.

Answer: False. Safeguarding is everyone's responsibility.

Card 6:

Multiple Choice: What is the purpose of safeguarding training?

- A. To prevent harm to children and vulnerable adults.
- B. To protect the church from legal action.
- C. To provide advice on financial safety.
- D. To train volunteers in first aid.

Answer: A. To prevent harm to children and vulnerable adults.

Card 7:

True or False? Volunteers who only help occasionally at events don't need safeguarding training.

Answer: False. All volunteers working with children or vulnerable adults must receive safeguarding training.

Card 8:

Multiple Choice: Which of these is NOT part of safeguarding?

- A. Creating a welcoming environment.
- B. Reporting concerns about harm or neglect.
- C. Planning events for congregation growth.
- D. Following up on safeguarding reports.

Answer: C. Planning events for congregation growth.

Reflection Cards: Open-Ended Questions

Card 1:

How can we create an environment in our church where children and vulnerable adults feel safe and supported?

Example Responses: Training all volunteers, clear safeguarding policies, encouraging open communication, and ensuring proper supervision.

Card 2:

What does 'safeguarding' mean to you, and why is it important in a church setting?

Example Responses: Protecting everyone from harm, fostering trust, and ensuring the church remains a safe space for all.

Card 3:

How can we ensure all members of our congregation are aware of safeguarding policies?

Example Responses: Regular announcements, training sessions, posters, and leaflets.

Card 4:

What are some signs that a child or vulnerable adult might be at risk of harm?

Example Responses: Sudden withdrawal, unexplained injuries, fearfulness, changes in behavior, or reluctance to be around certain individuals.

Card 5:

How can we better support volunteers in understanding and following safeguarding policies?

Example Responses: Provide regular training, clear written guidance, and open communication channels for questions.

Card 6:

Why is it important to balance vigilance with trust in a church community?

Example Responses: To ensure safety while maintaining a welcoming and supportive environment.

Card 7:

What would you do if you reported a concern, but no action seemed to be taken?

Example Responses: Follow up with the safeguarding officer or escalate to a higher authority, such as the diocese safeguarding team.

Card 8:

What role does transparency play in effective safeguarding?

Example Responses: It builds trust, ensures accountability, and creates an open culture where concerns can be raised freely.

Quick Facts Cards

Card 1:

Fact: Safeguarding isn't just about children. Vulnerable adults, such as those with disabilities or mental health challenges, also need protection.

Card 2:

Fact: Even if a concern seems minor, it's better to report it than ignore it.

Card 3:

Fact: Every volunteer working with children or vulnerable adults in the church must undergo safeguarding training.

Card 4:

Fact: A safeguarding officer's role includes responding to concerns, maintaining policies, and ensuring proper reporting procedures.

Card 5:

Fact: Safeguarding involves preventing physical, emotional, and psychological harm.

Card 6:

Fact: A DBS check alone does not guarantee safety—it must be combined with proper supervision and policies.

Card 7:

Fact: Safeguarding includes recognizing risks like bullying, grooming, and neglect.

Card 8:

Fact: Every church must have a named safeguarding officer and a safeguarding policy accessible to everyone.

Challenge Cards: Role-Playing

Card 1:

Pretend you are the safeguarding officer. Someone has just told you they suspect neglect in a family attending church. How would you respond?

Answer: Listen calmly and without judgment. Reassure the person that you will take their concerns seriously and explain the process of reporting the concern.

Card 2:

You are leading a youth group. A teenager tells you they feel unsafe at home. How do you handle this?

Answer: Listen carefully and reassure them. Let them know you must report this to the safeguarding officer to help them.

Card 3:

Pretend you are a youth leader. A teenager tells you they've seen inappropriate messages sent by another volunteer. What would you do?

Answer: Thank them for telling you and report the concern to the safeguarding officer immediately. Avoid investigating it yourself.

Card 4:

A vulnerable adult confides in you that they feel unsafe attending church events. How would you handle this?

Answer: Listen with empathy, ask if they feel comfortable sharing more, and ensure the safeguarding officer is informed.

Card 5:

During a group activity, you overhear a child telling another that they “don’t want to go home.” How do you respond?

Answer: Speak to the child privately in a safe space, ask gentle, open-ended questions, and report any concerns to the safeguarding officer.

Card 6:

You’re supervising a church trip. One of the volunteers keeps taking photos of the children without asking. What should you do?

Answer: Remind the volunteer of the photo consent policy and report their behaviour to the safeguarding officer.

Snakes and Ladders safeguarding questions

LADDER CARDS

(Answer correctly to climb the ladder!)

- 1. Question:** What should you do if someone in church makes you feel unsafe or uncomfortable?
Answer: Tell a trusted adult like a parent, teacher, or the church safeguarding officer.
- 2. Question:** In the Bible, Jesus said, “Let the little children come to me.” What does this mean?
Answer: That Jesus cares about children and wants them to be safe and loved.
- 3. Question:** If a friend tells you they’re being hurt by someone, what should you do?
Answer: Tell a grown-up you trust. Don’t keep it a secret.
- 4. Question:** What does the safeguarding officer in your church do?
Answer: They help keep everyone, especially children, safe.
- 5. Question:** God wants us to treat each other with kindness. What should you do if someone is being bullied?
Answer: Help them and tell an adult.
- 6. Question:** What should you check before going somewhere with someone from church?
Answer: Make sure your parent or carer knows and says it’s OK.
- 7. Question:** Why is it important to have more than one adult at children’s church activities?
Answer: To help keep everyone safe and make sure all adults act properly.
- 8. Question:** The Bible teaches us to love our neighbour. What does that mean at church?
Answer: Be kind, fair, and help keep others safe.
- 9. Question:** What should you do if someone at church asks you to keep a secret that feels wrong?
Answer: Tell a trusted adult right away.
- 10. Question:** Why do churches have safeguarding rules?
Answer: To protect children and make sure everyone is safe.

SNAKE CARDS

(Answer correctly to stay where you are — otherwise, slide down!)

- Question:** Is it okay for an adult at church to ask you to keep something secret from your parents?

Answer: No — secrets like that should be told to a trusted adult.
- Question:** What would you do if someone at church says something rude or unkind to you?

Answer: Tell a parent, teacher, or the safeguarding officer.
- Question:** A church helper wants to take you somewhere alone. What should you do?

Answer: Say no and tell an adult you trust.
- Question:** If another child at church is being treated unfairly, what should you do?

Answer: Tell a grown-up. Helping others is the right thing.
- Question:** If someone touches you in a way that makes you feel uncomfortable, should you stay quiet?

Answer: No. Tell a trusted adult right away.
- Question:** If someone says “God wants you to do this” but it feels wrong or scary, what should you do?

Answer: Tell a safe adult. God never wants us to be afraid or unsafe.
- Question:** Is it okay for someone to message you online about church things if your parents don’t know?

Answer: No — online messages should be seen by your parents or carers.
- Question:** What does Jesus mean when he tells us to be like a good shepherd?

Answer: Take care of and protect others, especially those in need.
- Question:** If an adult at church gets angry and yells at you, what should you do?

Answer: Tell a trusted adult. You should feel safe at church.
- Question:** Should you always obey adults at church, even if what they say feels wrong?

Answer: No — if it feels wrong, tell someone you trust.