

SAFEGUARDING QUESTIONS FOR PCC MEETINGS

1. How well do we, as a PCC, understand our safeguarding responsibilities under the Church of England Safeguarding Standards and the Code of Practice?
(Do we feel confident, or are there gaps in knowledge or clarity?)
2. What messages - explicit and implicit - does our PCC send about the importance of safeguarding in our parish life?
(How do clergy and lay leaders communicate expectations?)
3. Where do we see safeguarding embedded into the day-to-day life and ministry of our church, and where does it still feel like an “add on”?
4. To what extent do people in our congregation feel able to raise concerns or speak openly about safeguarding issues without fear of judgement or consequences?
5. How confident are we that concerns raised by children, adults, volunteers, or staff will be taken seriously, responded to appropriately, and recorded properly?
5. How effectively do we create a culture where children, young people, and adults at risk feel safe, valued, and included in the life of the church?
7. How well do we model and uphold safer recruitment practice, and how robustly do we ensure all required training is completed and refreshed?
8. How well do we work with our Parish Safeguarding Officer (PSO), the Diocesan Safeguarding Team, and statutory partners - and how open are we to challenge?
9. Do we have a culture that welcomes feedback and lessons learned when things go wrong - or do we find it difficult to acknowledge mistakes or near misses?
10. If we imagined our parish in five years, what would a deeply embedded, healthy safeguarding culture look like - and what steps can we take now to move toward it?