

Annual Parish Safeguarding Officer's Report

11th March 2021

Since the beginning of the pandemic, all safeguarding policies have been reviewed, including guidelines for online interaction for choir practices, which were discussed with Simon Jackson.

During the past year, I have contacted all those required to undergo DBS checks and to complete safeguarding courses. From March 2020, I have followed the provisional guidelines issued by the Ely Diocese during the pandemic, so applicants were (and still are) able to send me scans of documents, to show the documents to me via online chat (Zoom, Skype etc.) or to show them to me personally after Sunday Mass when that is possible. To this date, these are the results:

Courses		Complete	Not Completed
	PCC	15	1
	Wardens	2	-
	Staff	1	1
	Volunteers	17	4

Self-Declaration		Completed	Not sent
	PCC	11	5
	Wardens	2	-
	Staff	2	-
	Volunteers	11	6

DBS Check		Completed	Being processed	Not started
	PCC	11	1	4
	Wardens	1	1	-
	Staff	2	-	-
	Volunteers	16	-	5

I will contact other volunteers such as 'back of church', 'coffee duty', and 'sidesduty' to encourage them to take the CO course as advised by the Diocese.

The Diocese has new guidelines on safeguarding courses, which will mean that fewer people will have to take the Leadership Safeguarding Course (the C2 course). These guidelines do not alter the requirement for members of the PCC (who only have to complete CO), but will affect some of the other voluntary staff at LSM. I will consider these guidelines when I start the annual review of safeguarding checks of voluntary staff and policies in May 2021.

Patricia Pires Boulhosa