

Safeguarding Children, Young People and Adults at Risk

Policy Statement and Procedure

Purpose and Scope of this Policy

This policy is built on the foundation of Lasallian Values, our faith traditions and the requirements of the [Catholic Safeguarding Standards Agency](#) set out in the [National Safeguarding Standards](#).

Safeguarding is the responsibility of every member of the Institute.

This Policy applies to all the Brothers of the Congregation, and all Lasallian Partners and Staff, including (but not limited to) employees, agency workers and volunteers.

Policy and Procedure Statement

We are fully committed to ensuring that children, young people and adults at risk are safeguarded from all forms of abuse and harm and are respected.

Accordingly, we will:

- ☆ Ensure that matters of concern, including disclosures of abuse or harm, are dealt with in a timely manner, respectfully and compassionately and in accordance with the requirements of mandatory reporting and relevant legislation;
- ☆ Ensure robust recruitment (including eligibility checks), selection and performance monitoring procedures for personnel;
- ☆ Provide ongoing training and formation which equips Brothers and personnel with the knowledge and skills required, and in-line with their roles and responsibilities;
- ☆ Develop and implement an effective online safety policy and related procedures;
- ☆ Put in place a set of behaviour protocols – a Code of Conduct;
- ☆ Ensure compliance and adherence with policies and procedures related to Safeguarding Children, Young People and Adults at Risk.

Community policy and procedures will be reviewed as and when changes in legislation and/or government guidance occurs, and/or as a result of any other significant change or event indicated by Catholic Safeguarding Standards Agency and/or Religious Life Safeguarding Services.

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National Safeguarding Structure (Three entities constituted in 2021)

1. The [Catholic Safeguarding Standards Agency \(CSSA\)](#): A new professional standards body with regulatory powers.
2. A dedicated entity regarding safeguarding for Religious Life Groups, which are more formally defined as [Religious Life Safeguarding Services \(RLSS\)](#) covering Religious Orders and Congregations.
3. A [National Tribunal](#) to address the canonical matters connected to clergy discipline and canonical offences, exercising jurisdiction exclusively in the canonical forum but extending to preliminary case evaluation and beyond.

This new model is built on a ‘**One Church**’ strategy to safeguarding – a commitment across all the Dioceses and Religious Life Groups to be One Church when it comes to safeguarding, with all organisations working to a common standards-based approach and transparency and accountability in the fulfilment and upholding of these standards.

Responsibilities of the Brothers and Lasallian Partners

The following responsibilities apply at all times:

- ☆ Adopt and follow the [National Safeguarding Policy](#) provided by the CSSA;
- ☆ Adopt and adhere to the [8 National Safeguarding Standards](#) which represent the expected level of practice that is to be applied by church bodies for the purpose of safeguarding the children and adults with whom the Church has contact:
 1. Embed safeguarding in the Church body’s leadership, governance, ministry and culture.
 2. Communicate the Church’s safeguarding message.
 3. Engage with and care for those who report having been harmed.
 4. Effectively manage allegations and concerns.
 5. Manage and support subjects of allegations and concerns (respondents).
 6. Implement robust human resource management.
 7. Provide and access training and support for safeguarding.
 8. Quality assure compliance to continuously improve practice.

The standards will be subject to ongoing review and refinement as a result of ongoing learning from their implementation.

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Policy Documents

There are 6 principal policy documents:

- Management of concerns and allegations
- Safer recruitment
- DBS Processing
- Handling of DBS Complaints
- Information Security Policy for Disclosure and Barring Services
- Whistleblowing

These policy documents can be accessed, printed and downloaded from:

<http://www.catholicsafeguarding.org.uk/national-safeguarding-standards/national-safeguarding-policy/> in an unaltered form, on a temporary basis, for personal study or reference purposes. Content printed or downloaded may not be sold, licensed, transferred, copied or reproduced in whole or in part in any manner or in or on any media to any person without the prior consent of the Catholic Safeguarding Standards Agency.

NB: In Lasallian Schools responsibility for safeguarding rests with the school authorities and any concerns that a young person is at risk should be referred to the school's Designated Safeguarding Lead.

Reporting concerns of abuse and support

- **DLS Safeguarding Lead (GB):** Mr. John Biggins
Mob: 07849 406526
Email: safeguardingadminGB@lasalleigbm.org
- [Action on Elder Abuse](#) - UK Helpline: 0808 8088 141 (free phone and confidential)
- [Safe Spaces](#) - Supporting survivors of church-related abuse - Tel: 0300 303 1056