



Executive Briefing Note – June 2014

(Model) Policy Statement- Safeguarding children, young people and adults who are vulnerable

- i. This document is intended for theological education institutions (TEIs). These include theological colleges, regional courses, regional training partnerships, diocesan training schemes, ecumenical partnerships and similar bodies which train candidates for the public ministries of the Church of England and its ecumenical partners.
- ii. The aims of this model policy template are both to ensure the safeguarding policy in a TEI is in line with current national policy, and to provide an approach which offers consistency between TEIs.
- iii. It emphasises that safeguarding is everyone's business.
- iv. It highlights three national documents which are key to local implementation
 - i. *Working Together to Safeguard Children A guide to inter-agency working to safeguard and promote the welfare of children* HM Government 2013
 - ii. *Statement Of Government Policy On Adult Safeguarding* Department of Health 2011
 - iii. *Keeping Children Safe in Education* Department for Education 2014
- v. The model policy includes the Church of England's safeguarding policies.
- vi. The approach has been to provide a template which sets out what needs to be included but requires the TEI to say how it will be implemented and who will monitor the policy.
- vii. The TEI will link this policy to its HR arrangements (recruitment & employment); appoint and train Designated Safeguarding Officer/s and a Governing Body Representative; and ensure staff and students are appropriately trained with safeguarding embedded in the TEI curriculum.

This briefing note and model policy statement was prepared by:

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South West Ministry Training Course

**Safeguarding children,
young people and adults
who are vulnerable**

Policy Statement

Date agreed by the Governing Body - 3 December 2014
Updated August 2016
Date of next Review – Dec 2016

Overview of this document

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1. Important contact details

1.1. The name of TEI Designated Officer for Safeguarding (children and adults) is:

Name: Kim Mathers
Telephone 01271 346203

1.2. The name of TEI Deputy Designated Officer for Safeguarding (children and adults) is:

Name Sue Sheppard
Telephone 01392 861022

1.3. The contact details for the local Social Services¹ (sometimes known as Social Care):

Name of Authority: Devon County Council

Children's Services: Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH)
Telephone (office hours): 0345 155 1071 mashsecure@devon.gcsx.gov.uk
Telephone (emergencies out of office hours): 0845 6000 388

Adult Services: Care Direct
Telephone (office hours): 0345 155 1007 csc.caredirect@devon.gov.uk
Telephone (emergencies out of office hours): 0845 6000 388

1.4. Police:

Emergencies: 999
Non emergencies: 101

1.5 The name(s) of the relevant Diocesan Safeguarding Advisers are:

Exeter:
Director of HR (with oversight of Safeguarding)
Catherine Allen 01392 345908 Email: catherine.allen@exeter.anglican.org
Interim Diocesan Safeguarding Advisers
Stephen Edgeley / Gary Stokes dsa@exeter.anglican.org
Telephone: 01392 345909

Truro:
Name: Sarah Acraman, Diocesan Safeguarding Officer
Telephone: 01872 274351 x231 Email: sarah.acraman@truro.anglican.org

¹ [The contact details for local social services can be found here](#)

2. Safeguarding is everyone's business

The Church of England works in partnership with other Christian Churches and agencies in delivering safeguarding. In doing so, the Churches subscribe to the following principles, which, in partnership, the TEI also subscribes to. Therefore, the TEI is committed to:

- The care and nurture of, and respectful pastoral ministry with, all children, young people and all adults
- The safeguarding and protection of all children, young people and all adults
- The establishing of safe, caring communities which provide a loving environment where victims of abuse can report or disclose abuse and where they can find support and best practice that contributes to the prevention of abuse.

In particular, the TEI aims to:

- 2.1 Reduce the risk of significant harm to vulnerable people (children and adults) from abuse or other types of exploitation, whilst listening to and supporting individuals
- 2.2 Ensure safeguarding is everybody's business, with this institution playing its part in preventing, detecting and reporting neglect and abuse
- 2.3 Ensure arrangements are in place locally to protect those least able to protect themselves.

3. Definitions

3.1 A child is anyone who has not yet reached their 18th birthday. The fact that a child has reached 16 years of age, is living independently or is in further education, is a member of the armed forces, is in hospital or in custody in the secure estate, does not change his/her status or entitlements to services or protection.

3.2 An adult is someone over 18 years old and includes any adult, whether or not they consider themselves vulnerable, who may be vulnerable by reason of age, illness, disability; and any adult who has been made vulnerable by their situation or circumstance, such as by discrimination, or as a victim / survivor of abuse.

3.3 For definitions of abuse, see Appendix 1: Types of Abuse.

4. Government National Policy Guidance

This policy statement follows requirements from the following Government Guidance:

4.1 *Working Together to Safeguard Children*² A guide to inter-agency working to safeguard and promote the welfare of children HM Government 2013

4.2 *Statement of Government Policy On Adult Safeguarding*³ Department of Health 2011

4.3 *Keeping Children Safe in Education*⁴ Department for Education 2014.

5. Church of England National Policy Guidance⁵

This policy statement follows Church of England national safeguarding policies and procedures:

5.1 *Promoting a Safe Church* (safeguarding policy for adults) 2006

5.2 *Responding to Domestic Abuse* (guidelines for those with pastoral responsibility, 2006)

5.3 *Responding Well to those who have been sexually abused* (2011)

² [Working Together to Safeguard Children](#)

³ [Statement Of Government Policy On Adult Safeguarding](#)

⁴ Keeping Children Safe in Education: https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/300309/KCSIE_gdnce_FINAL.pdf

⁵ [Church of England National Policy guidance](#)

5.4 *Protecting All God's Children* (safeguarding policy for children and young people, 4th edition, 2010)

5.5 *Safeguarding Guidelines relating to Safer Recruitment* (interim policy, 2013).

6. Duties of Faith Organisations - Section 11 of the Children Act 2004⁶

6.1 Section 11 of the Children Act 2004 places duties on a range of organisations and individuals to ensure their functions, and any services that they contract out to others, are discharged having regard to the need to safeguard and promote the welfare of children.

6.2 The range of organisations includes "Faith Organisations":

"Churches, other places of worship and faith-based organisations provide a wide range of activities for children and have an important role in safeguarding children and supporting families. Like other organisations who work with children they need to have appropriate arrangements in place to safeguard and promote the welfare of children" as described in *Working Together* (Chapter 2 paragraph 4.)".

7. Statutory Safeguarding requirements for all vulnerable people (children and adults)

Ultimate legal responsibility for safeguarding in the TEI rests with the Governing Body which ensures that the TEI has put in place safeguarding arrangements that reflect the importance of safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and adults in accordance with statutory requirements and locally agreed interagency procedures:

- a) as set out in *Working Together to Safeguard Children* (chapter 2 paragraph 4), in relation to children
- b) following equivalent guidance in relation to adults who are vulnerable.

Such statutory requirements are as follows:

- 7.1 a clear line of accountability for the commissioning and/or provision of services designed to safeguard and promote the welfare of children and adults
- 7.2 a member of the Governing Body to take leadership responsibility for the organisation's safeguarding arrangements
- 7.3 a culture of listening to children and adults, taking account of their wishes and feelings, both in individual decisions and the development of services
- 7.4 arrangements which set out clearly the processes for sharing information, with other professionals and with the Local Safeguarding Children Board (LSCB)⁷ or Local Safeguarding Adults Board (LSAB)⁸
- 7.5 a member of staff appointed as Designated Officer for Safeguarding. Their role is to support other staff in recognising the needs of children and adults, including rescue from possible abuse or neglect. [See appendix 2]. Designated Officers for Safeguarding roles should always be explicitly defined in job descriptions. Designated Officers for

⁶ [Working Together to Safeguard Children](#) see page 47 onwards

⁷ Local Safeguarding Children Boards (LSCBs) were established by the Children Act 2004 which gives a statutory responsibility to each locality to have this mechanism in place. LSCBs are now the key system in every locality of the country for organisations to come together to agree on how they will cooperate with one another to safeguard and promote the welfare of children. The purpose of this partnership working is to hold each other to account and to ensure safeguarding children remains high on the agenda across their region.

⁸ The Local Safeguarding Adults Board (LSAB) is a multi - agency partnership which provides strategic leadership for the development of adults safeguarding policy and practice, consistent with national policy and best practice.

Safeguarding should be given sufficient time, funding, supervision and support to fulfil their child welfare and safeguarding responsibilities effectively

7.6 safe recruitment procedures ensuring that all appropriate checks, including criminal record checks, are carried out on staff, students and volunteers who work with children and adults who are vulnerable

7.7 appropriate supervision and support for staff, including undertaking safeguarding training:

- employers are responsible for ensuring that their staff are competent to carry out their responsibilities for safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and adults and creating an environment where staff feel able to raise concerns and feel supported in their safeguarding role;
- staff should be given a mandatory induction, which includes familiarisation with child protection responsibilities and procedures to be followed if anyone has any concerns about a child's or adult's safety or welfare; and
- all staff should have regular reviews of their own practice to ensure they improve over time.

7.8 clear policies in line with those from the LSCB/LSAB for dealing with allegations against people who work with children or adults who are vulnerable. An allegation may relate to a person who works with children or adults who has:

- behaved in a way that has harmed a child or adult, or may have harmed a child or adult;
- possibly committed a criminal offence against or related to a child or adult; or
- behaved towards a child or children or adult(s) in a way that indicates they may pose a risk of harm to children or adults.

7.9 in addition:

- county level and unitary Local Authorities should have a Local Authority Designated Officer (LADO)⁹ to be involved in the management and oversight of individual cases. The LADO should provide advice and guidance to employers and voluntary organisations, liaising with the police and other agencies and monitoring the progress of cases to ensure that they are dealt with as quickly as possible, consistent with a thorough and fair process;
- any allegation should be reported immediately to a senior manager within the organisation. The LADO should also be informed within one working day of all allegations that come to an employer's attention or that are made directly to the police; and
- if an organisation removes an individual (paid worker or unpaid volunteer) from work such as looking after children (or would have, had the person not left first) because the person poses a risk of harm to children, the organisation must make

⁹ The LADO works within Children's Services and should be alerted to all cases in which it is alleged that a person who works with children has: behaved in a way that has harmed, or may have harmed, a child possibly committed a criminal offence against children, or related to a child behaved towards a child or children in a way that indicates s/he is unsuitable to work with children. The LADO role applies to paid, unpaid, volunteer, casual, agency and self-employed workers. They capture concerns, allegations or offences emanating from outside of work. The LADO is involved from the initial phase of the allegation through to the conclusion of the case.

They will provide advice, guidance and help to determine whether the allegation sits within the scope of the procedures. The LADO helps co-ordinate information-sharing with the right people and will also monitor and track any investigation, with the aim to resolve it as quickly as possible. If you need to contact your Local Authority Designated Officer (LADO), please consult your Local Safeguarding Children Board (LSCB) or Local Children's Services Authority.

a referral to the Disclosure and Barring Service¹⁰. It is an offence to fail to make a referral without good reason.

Specific arrangements for the TEIs implementation of these requirements are set out in section 8.

8 The TEI's implementation of statutory safeguarding requirement as set out in section 7

The TEI follows the detailed guidance and procedures of the Dioceses of Exeter and Truro. The Exeter Diocesan Safeguarding Adviser, Christine Hindle 01392 345909 or the Truro Diocesan Safeguarding Officer Sarah Acraman 01872 274351 can be contacted for advice on putting arrangements in place¹¹ and information about policy and practice. TEI staff seconded from dioceses should follow the training requirements of the sponsoring diocese.

For each of the sections below, the person or body named as responsible in each section is required to list actions specific to the TEI which demonstrate how the arrangement is being implemented, and to note the date for review.

8.1 Procedures for activities (ref 7.1)

Responsibility: Designated Officer for Safeguarding (staff) and Safeguarding Representative (Governing Body)

1. Procedures are in place for activities for children, adults and mixed age within the TEI community (including risk assessment of activities and premises; ratios of leaders to children/vulnerable adults; record keeping).
2. Ensuring that placement supervisors have put in place procedures for students running activities for children, adults and mixed age when out on placement, in line with placement church's and diocese's procedures.
3. Diocesan safeguarding policies, procedures and guidance are held by the Designated Officer for Safeguarding and Safeguarding Representative, and details of TEI procedures reflect the requirements.
4. Designated Officer for Safeguarding (staff) is in contact with the Diocesan Safeguarding Adviser.

8.2 Designated Officers for Safeguarding (ref 7.2, 7.5)

Responsibility: Governing Body

1. Senior members of TEI's leadership team are appointed as Designated Officer and Deputy Designated Officer for Safeguarding, and Governing Body Safeguarding Representative appointed by that Body, to ensure procedures are in place for dealing with safeguarding issues.
2. Safeguarding roles are defined in the job descriptions of Designated and Deputy Designated Officers.

¹⁰ [Information about the Disclosure and Barring service can be found here](#)

¹¹ See Church of England Safeguarding Practice Guidance, Responding to Serious Situations, reference Appendix 3 Flow chart.

3. Supervision, support and training, including Local Authority and Diocesan safeguarding training, is in place for Designated Officer and Deputy Designated Officer for Safeguarding, and Governing Body Safeguarding Representative.

8.3 Culture of listening to children and adults (ref 7.3)

Responsibility: All Staff

- 1 All safeguarding information about abuse, whether past or present, and including internet abuse, is taken seriously and referred to the Designated Officer for Safeguarding (staff).

Responsibility: Designated Officer for Safeguarding (staff)

- 1 Independent authorised listeners, appointed by the Diocese, are made available through the Diocesan Safeguarding Adviser to adults reporting abuse.

Responsibility: Governing Body

1. Taking into account the views of children and adults affected, the Governing Body:
 - a) reviews all allegations and concerns brought to its attention, and remedies without delay any deficiencies or weaknesses in regard to safeguarding arrangements that are brought to their attention;
 - b) reviews the TEI's safeguarding policies and procedures annually.

8.4 Information sharing (ref 7.4, 7.9)

Responsibility: All staff

All allegations or concerns are reported to the Designated Officer for Safeguarding (staff).

Responsibility: Designated Officer for Safeguarding (staff)

1. The Designated Officer for Safeguarding (staff) shares information about any allegation or concern with the statutory agencies in which the alleged victim resides: police if criminal behaviour; and with the LADO of Children's Services, or equivalent senior manager in Adult Services, within one working day; and follows statutory advice.
2. The Designated Officer for Safeguarding (staff) reports all safeguarding information about abuse, and the response made, to the Governing Body Safeguarding Representative.
3. In responding to serious situations¹², the Designated Officer for Safeguarding (staff) shares information with any relevant Diocesan or Church of England Safeguarding Adviser. For a member of staff this includes the Diocese in which the TEI is located; for a student, this includes the Diocese or any agency sponsoring the student. For an independent student, the responsibility remains with the TEI.

Responsibility: Governing Body

¹² See Church of England Safeguarding Practice Guidance, Responding to Serious Situations

1. Name of member of the governing body nominated to be responsible for liaising with the local authority and/or partner agencies, as appropriate in the event of allegations of abuse being made against the TEI principal. Nigel Walsh, Trustees' representative

8.5 Safer recruitment (ref 7.6)

Responsibility: Designated Officer for Safeguarding (staff)/Human Resources

1. *For staff:* the TEI follows Church of England and Diocesan practice in recruitment of staff, including references, interviews and criminal checks with the DBS.

Responsibility: Human Resources/Diocesan Directors of Ordinands

1. *For students:* the TEI works with the sponsoring diocese to ensure that all students have been recruited safely, including a criminal check.
NB Occasional or short term students do not need a criminal check unless they are involved in regulated activity.¹³

8.6 Competence for role/raising concerns/support (ref 7.7)

Responsibility: Designated Officer for Safeguarding (staff)

1. The TEI's policies and procedures are available and accessible to all staff and students, as is required by their role [see appendix 3 for an example of accessible format].

Responsibility: Designated Officer for Safeguarding (staff)/all staff and students/users

1. All staff, students and users of services know who to contact if they have a safeguarding concern.

Responsibility: Designated Officer for Safeguarding (staff) /temporary staff and volunteers

1. Temporary staff and volunteers who work with children or adults who are vulnerable are made aware of the TEI's arrangements for safeguarding and their responsibilities.

8.7 Training, supervision, induction, review (ref 7.7)

For staff:

Responsibility: Designated Officer for Safeguarding (staff)/Human Resources/Staff training

1. The TEI principal, and all staff (teaching and support staff if they work directly with children or adults who are vulnerable), undertake training required to equip them to carry out their responsibilities for safeguarding effectively, that is kept up to date by refresher training at three yearly intervals.
2. Details of training are provided in a timely fashion for all staff.
3. Introduction to safeguarding policies and procedures is included in staff induction programmes.

¹³ Changes to Disclosure and Barring 2012, Summary of the new definition of Regulated Activity, p 9:
https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/97875/leaflet-england-wales.pdf

4. Review of improvement in safeguarding practice forms part of staff ongoing appraisal.

For students:

Responsibility: Designated Officer for Safeguarding (staff)/Curriculum planners

1. Safeguarding training forms a core part of the TEI's curriculum for students.
2. Review of improvement in safeguarding practice forms part of student ongoing assessment.

8.8 Responding to serious situations (ref 7.8, 7.9 and cross reference 7.4)

Responsibility: Designated Officer for Safeguarding (staff)

1. Procedures for responding to serious situations, including allegations of abuse against members of staff, students and volunteers, are in place and followed, in line with LSCB/LSAB procedures, Church of England and Diocesan policies and practice guidance.
2. Referral is made to the Disclosure and Barring Service if a member of staff is removed or resigns from post, or a student withdraws from training due to a safeguarding issue.

Types of abuse for more details see¹⁴

Abuse is mistreatment by any other person or persons that violates a person's human and civil rights. The abuse can vary, from treating someone with disrespect in a way that significantly affects the person's quality of life, to causing actual physical or mental suffering.

1. Physical Abuse. A form of abuse which may involve hitting, shaking, throwing, poisoning, burning or scalding, drowning, suffocating or otherwise causing physical harm to a child or adult. Physical harm may also be caused when a parent or carer fabricates the symptoms of, or deliberately induces, illness in a child.
2. Sexual Abuse. Involves forcing or enticing a child or adult to take part in sexual activities, whether or not the child or adult is aware of what is happening. The activities may involve physical contact, including assault by penetration (for example, rape or oral sex) or non-penetrative acts such as masturbation, kissing, rubbing and touching outside of clothing. They may also include non-contact activities, such as involving children or vulnerable adults in looking at, or in the production of, sexual images, watching sexual activities, encouraging children to behave in sexually inappropriate ways, or grooming a child in preparation for abuse (including via the internet). Sexual abuse is not solely perpetrated by adult males. Women can also commit acts of sexual abuse, as can other children.
3. Neglect and acts of omission. The persistent failure to meet an individual's basic physical and/or psychological needs, likely to result in the serious impairment of their health or development. Including ignoring medical or physical care needs, failure to provide access to appropriate health, social care or educational services, the withholding of the necessities of life, such as medication, adequate nutrition and heating.
4. Emotional/psychological Abuse (including Web-based bullying and witnessing Domestic Violence/Abuse). The persistent emotional maltreatment of a child or adult such as to cause severe and persistent adverse effects on the individual's emotional development. It may involve conveying to them that they are worthless or unloved, inadequate, or valued only insofar as they meet the needs of another person.
5. Institutional Abuse. Institutional Abuse occurs where the routines and regimes within care settings (day, residential, hospital or other institutions including TEIs) deny people rights, choices and opportunities. Abuse can be caused by weak or oppressive management, inadequate staffing (numbers, competence), inadequate supervision or support, "closed" communication, lack of knowledge of Whistleblowing policies and lack of training.
6. Discriminatory Abuse. Including racist, sexist, that based on a person's disability, sexual orientation, and other forms of harassment, slurs or similar treatment.
7. Financial / material abuse. Including theft, fraud, exploitation, pressure in connection with wills, property or inheritance or financial transactions, or the misuse or misappropriation of property, possessions or benefits;
8. Domestic Violence/Abuse. Domestic violence is physical, sexual, psychological or financial violence that takes place within an intimate or family-type relationship and that forms a pattern of coercive and controlling behaviour. This can include forced marriage and so-called 'honour crimes'. Domestic violence may include a range of abusive behaviours, not all of which are in themselves inherently physically violent
9. Spiritual Abuse. The inappropriate use of religious belief or practice. This can include the misuse of the authority of leadership or penitential discipline, oppressive teaching, or intrusive healing and deliverance ministries.

¹⁴ For children see [Working Together to Safeguard Children](#) page 85 and for adults [No secrets](#) paragraph 2.7

The Designated Officer for Safeguarding

The Designated Officer for Safeguarding need not be a teacher/lecturer but must have the status and authority within the TEI management structure to carry out the duties of the post including committing resources to safeguarding matters, and where appropriate directing other staff.

In many TEIs a single designated person will be sufficient, but a deputy should be available to act in the designated person's absence. In large establishments, or those with a large number of safeguarding concerns, it may be necessary to have a number of deputies to deal with the workload;

In addition to basic safeguarding training the Designated Officer undertakes training in inter-agency working that is provided by, or to standards agreed by, the Local Safeguarding Children and Adult boards and refresher training at two yearly intervals to keep his or her knowledge and skills up to date;

The Designated Officer should make contact with the Local Authority Designated Officer (LADO) for children and his or her equivalent for adults. Their names can be obtained from the local social services department.

The broad areas of responsibility proposed for the Designated Officer for Safeguarding include:

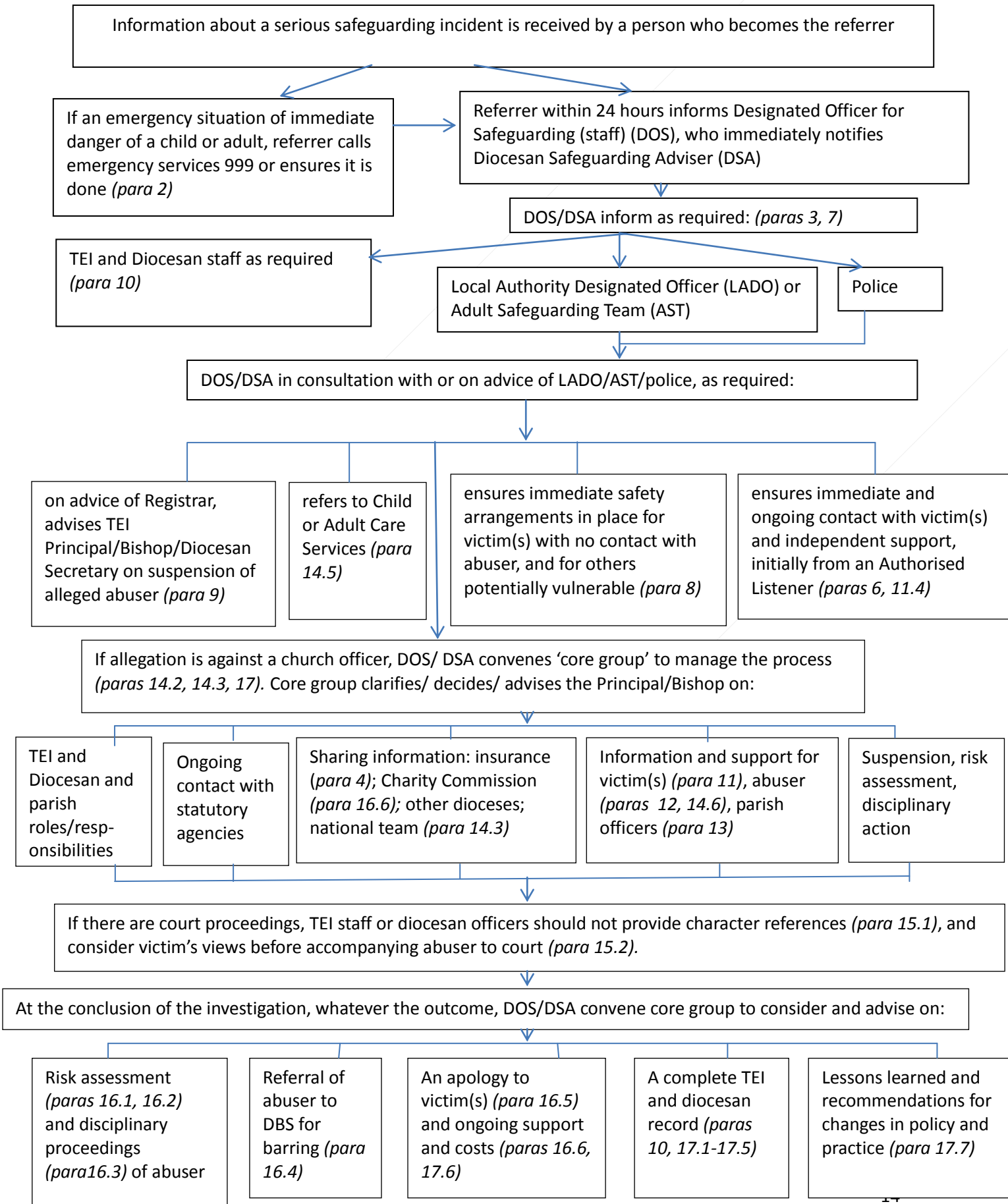
- Making referrals to the statutory authorities, the Disclosure and Barring Service and supporting people involved in the process
- Training
- Raising awareness.

These are detailed in *Keeping Children Safe in Education* Department for Education 2014¹⁵ Annex B which provides a useful guide to TEIs in safeguarding arrangements.

¹⁵ Keeping Children Safe in Education: https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/300309/KCSIE_gdnce_FINAL.pdf Annex B

Appendix 3

Responding to Serious Situations
Flow chart extracted and adapted from Church of England Safeguarding Practice
Guidance: Responding to Serious Situations



Appendix 4



A5 Leaflet for all staff

Contact Details

The TEI designated officer for safeguarding is:

Name Kim Mathers
Telephone 01271 346203

The TEI deputy designated officer for safeguarding is:

Name Sue Sheppard
Telephone 01392 861022

The contact details for the local social services (sometimes known as Social Care) are:

Name of authority Devon County Council
Telephone (office hours) 0345 1551 007
csc.caredirect@devon.gov.uk
Telephone (emergency out of office hours) 0845 6000 388

Police:

Emergencies: 999
Non emergencies: 101

South West Ministry Training Course

Safeguarding



What to do if...

... you have concerns about possible abuse (including allegations):

1. In an emergency, respond immediately.
2. Inform the Designated Officer for Safeguarding (staff) in the TEI.
3. Decide together whether to seek advice or to make an immediate referral to police or care services (see back page)
4. Keep a record of what happened, your concerns and your actions.
5. In consultation with the Designated Officer for Safeguarding (staff), tell the person to whom you are responsible and the TEI principal.
6. Only tell others who need to know.

.. a child, young person or adult wishes to disclose they have been abused:

1. Listen. Keep listening. Do not question or investigate.
2. Do not promise confidentiality; tell them we need to share this.
3. Assure them they are not to blame.

4. Tell them what you are going to do and that they will be told what happens.
5. Make careful notes of what is said, record dates, times, events and when you are told.
6. Report it to the person to whom you are responsible and your Designated Officer for Safeguarding (staff) or principal.
7. Only tell those who need to know.

Things to remember

- Treat everyone with respect, setting a positive example for others.
- Respect personal space and privacy.
- Ensure any actions cannot be misrepresented by someone else.
- Challenge unacceptable behaviour.
- Do not put anyone, including yourself, in a vulnerable or compromising situation.
- Do not have inappropriate physical or verbal contact with others.
- You must not keep allegations or suspected abuse secret.