

Safeguarding report – December 2015

On Monday 8th February we are holding a **workshop on Safeguarding Recording**. The workshop will be held at Par Methodist Church, starting at 7.00pm and finishing no later than 9.00pm. At least one person per church should attend, but more are welcome. I suggest it should be the safeguarding officer or a steward. A representative from other church groups such as parent and toddler groups or youth clubs should also attend. Please can you let me know who from your church or group will be attending. My contact details are at the bottom of the report.

If you have anyone in your church or group who needs to do the **Creating Safer Spaces training** please let me know (I am already aware of a couple of people at Mount Charles). We hope to run this training in the spring. This training is compulsory for pastoral visitors, anyone working with children or young people (0-18) in the name of the church, anyone working in activities targeted at adults who are vulnerable, church stewards, circuit stewards, local preachers, worship leaders, safeguarding officers and choir/music group/drama leaders – where there are 0-18 year olds or vulnerable adults in the group but anyone is welcome to attend.

A recent incident in the district has highlighted the need to ensure everyone who should have a **DBS check** has been checked, and that if a check was done more than 5 years ago it needs to be renewed. The guidance around who should be checked is not straight-forward so if you are not sure whether a role requires someone to be checked please discuss it with me. The list below outlines roles which definitely require someone to be checked, but just because a role isn't on the list it doesn't mean no check is required. In the new year I will be working to update the circuit records and will contact individuals to verify when they were last checked but if you are in one of the roles below and know you have never been checked or that it was more than 5 years ago please speak to either myself or your minister.

Those requiring DBS checks:

All Methodist ministers including ordained presbyters and deacons, those candidating for the ministry and all supernumerary presbyters and deacons still capable of a preaching or pastoral ministry.

Work with children: Youth workers; Children's workers; Leader of Parent and Toddler group; Music leader where the choir / music group is mainly with children or young people; Drivers of young people or children where the driving is organised by the church; Open the Book volunteers.

Work with Adults who are vulnerable: This may include pastoral visitors (level of check will depend on how often visiting is taking place and whether it is just a social call or whether any help with care or financial matters is provided)

Others: Local preachers and worship leaders, church safeguarding officers and possibly stewards.

My details:

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