



Dear Volunteer,

Diocesan Safeguarding Awareness Training

Many thanks for putting yourself forward to become a volunteer in your Parish. Volunteers have a vital role in the life of the Church and much of its ministry would not be possible without you.

You will be aware that as part of the National Church's and Diocesan Safer Recruitment Process you will be asked to undergo a Disclosure and Barring Service Check and complete a number of other forms including the Safeguarding Self Declaration Form and Confirmation of Identity. References will also have been taken up prior to you starting your role.

As well as the above, in order to safeguard and promote the welfare of everyone who is associated with parish life, it is my expectation and that of the Trustees and Safeguarding Commission that all who work with vulnerable groups (children, young people or adults at risk) undertake Diocesan Safeguarding Basic Awareness Training. This can be done by either attending a Deanery face-to-face session or undertaking on-line training by registering via the Safeguarding Office with EduCare. From our experience, volunteers find the face-to-face sessions more relevant to their church role. This training will need to be refreshed on a 3 yearly basis. Face-to-face Refresher Training sessions will also shortly be part of the Training Programme.

For those of you who are becoming Parish Safeguarding Representatives, it is also expected that you will make every effort to attend the annual Safeguarding Thanksgiving Mass prior to which there is an updating session with the Safeguarding Team.

A decision has now been reached by the Safeguarding Commission that all new volunteers should undertake the basic training within a year of taking up their role.

For information about the training sessions, please contact Rosemary Terry, Assistant Diocesan Safeguarding Coordinator on 01273 859715 or look at the Diocesan Website in the Safeguarding Section under Courses and Events. Deanery Sessions are also publicised locally by the Parishes.

With every blessing,

+ Richard Moth

Right Reverend Richard Moth, Bishop of Arundel and Brighton