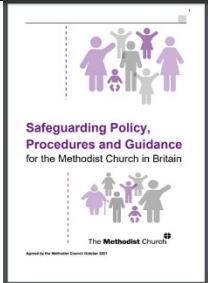
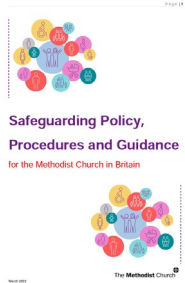


Updated documented changes to the Church Safeguarding Officers Handbook for Connexional year 2023/24

This document provides a section-by-section update following the changes made, in March 2023, to the Safeguarding Policy, Procedures and Guidance for the Methodist Church in Britain (PP&G).

www.methodist.org.uk/media/30043/safeguarding_policy_and_procedures_for_the_methodist_church_in_britain-march_2023.pdf

Section / Chapter	Church Safeguarding Officers Handbook – 2022/23		Updates to reflect the updated Polices, Procedures and Guidance doc.
	Page	Original statement / text	
Introduction	4		No changes required
Safeguarding Documents	5		
	5	Model Church Safeguarding Policy – updated February 2022	Model Church Safeguarding Policy – updated March 2023
Writing Reports for the Church Council	8		No changes required
Chapter 1	9-10		No changes required.
Chapter 2	11	Section 1: Respond promptly and appropriately to every safeguarding concern or allegation	Text now on page 20 of the PP&G 23
	11	Section 2: recording – with text taken from page 37 of the PP&G	Text now found on page 31 of the PP&G 23
	12	Section 3: Retention of Safeguarding Information (pg 82)	Text now found in Retention Schedule for Methodist Records (April 2021) pages 6 & 11
	12	Section 4: Storing Safeguarding Information (pg 83)	Text now on page 84 of the PP&G 23
	12	Section 5: Sharing Information (Pg 134)	Text now on page 65 of the PP&G 2023

Section / Chapter	Church Safeguarding Officers Handbook – 2022/23		Updates to reflect the updated Polices, procedures and Guidance doc.
	Page	Original statement / text	
Chapter 2	13	...I also recommend using the flowcharts found in the PP&G on pages 30 & 31.	The flowcharts are now on pages 27 & 28
	13	<i>Responding Well Flow Chart (referenced only)</i>	<i>Please now the flowchart has now been updated (Aug 2023)</i>
Chapter 3	14	<p>...When we understand that stewards are required to meet the above standards, we understand why the following (found on page 5 of the model safeguarding policy, first paragraph) is included:</p> <p>...The purpose of the Church Safeguarding Policy is to check that procedures are in place and provide clarity about the roles and responsibilities of those trusted with promoting the church as a safe space for all its users. It is to be read in conjunction with the Methodist Church Safeguarding Policy, Procedures and Guidance (2022)</p>	<p>The statement is now on page 2 of the model policy.</p> <p>Latest policy updated in 2023.</p>
	14	...This again can be found on page 5 of the model Church Safeguarding Policy, all under b) Good practice.	Now found on page 4
	15	Pastoral Visitors Guidance	Now called the Pastoral Care Guidance <i>Document on the District website had been updated accordingly</i>
	15	<i>Safeguarding and Pastoral Care booklet (referenced only)</i>	<i>Please note this document has now been updated on the District website</i>
	15	iii The Church premises will be assess by the church safeguarding officer with the property steward..... page 5 of the model Church Safeguarding Policy	Now page 4
	15	...Page 103 makes it very clear that 'It is the responsibility of the Church Council to ensure that proper health & safety processes are in place. Health ad safety should be managed as part of all activities and reference should be made to the following polices and guidance etc'.	This information is no longer included in the PP&G 2023
	16	...The Church Council can then use the results of your inspection to consider <i>the extent to which the premises and equipment are suitable or should be made more suitable.</i> Page 5 – Model Church Safeguarding Policy	Now page 4

Section / Chapter	Church Safeguarding Officers Handbook – 2022/23		Updates to reflect the updated Polices, procedures and Guidance doc.
	Page	Original statement / text	
Chapter 3 continued	16	iv) Any church-organised transport of children or vulnerable adults will be checked to ensure that the vehicle is suitable and insured and that the driver and escort (where required) are appropriate (see 6.10.7.1 of the Safeguarding Polices, procedures and Guidance for the methodist Church). A record to be kept in the church file for each driver / car. Page 5 – model Church Safeguarding Policy	Reference no longer included in the updated model Church Safeguarding Policy. Now on page 4
	16	v) Activity risk assessments will be undertaken before any activity takes place.... Page 5 – model Church Safeguarding Policy	Now on page 4
	16	...Page 95 of the Safeguarding Policies, procedures and Guidance for the methodist Church states that: Whilst the church recognises that it is impossible to avoid all risk when working with vulnerable groups....	Now on page 61
	16	Code of Conduct of people working with Children, Young People and Adults	This has now been split into 2 separate documents: 1. Working with Children and Young People 2. Working with Adults These two documents can be found on the District Website.
	17	...Please will you therefore provide the Code of Conduct to all leaders of groups aimed at children and young people...'	This should now read: 'Please will you therefore provide the <i>Safer working practises when managing children's activities</i> to leaders of groups aimed at children and young people and the <i>Code of safer working practises with adults</i> to leaders of groups aimed at adults'.
	17	vi) Promotion of safeguarding is recognised to included undertaking those tasks which enable all God's people to reach their full potential. The church council will activity consider the extent to which it is succeeding in this area. Page 5 – model Church safeguarding policy	Now on page 4

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	Page	Original statement / text	
Chapter 4	18 - 20		No changes required.
Chapter 5	21 - 22		No Changes required.
Chapter 6	24	...In order to help you make this assessment, a checklist has been devised for churches to use. This is on the District website. External Users of premises Checklist – July 2020	The checklist is no longer available or required. <i>(That being said I know some people have found it useful so it will still be available on the District website)</i>
Chapter 7	26 - 29		No changes required.
Chapter 8	31		No changes required.
