



PARISH Safeguarding Practice Self-Evaluation 2023

The information provided should relate to the period 1st January to 31st December 2023. Your completed questionnaire must be submitted by 24th May 2024.

N.B. The numbering of each question corresponds with the paragraph numbering used within 'In God's Image'. This is intended to provide you with a reference point to the relevant safeguarding standard that you are evaluating.

This form is being submitted by:

Role in parish:

- ☐ Parish Priest ☐ Administrator
☐ PSC
☐ Other

The questionnaire was completed by: Select all those involved:

- | | |
|--|--------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Parish Priest | <input type="checkbox"/> PSC |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Administrator | <input type="checkbox"/> Other |

Email address for receipt of copy of completed form

Please Select

Standard 1: Creating and maintaining safe Church environments

1.1a Were your parish premises used by any groups for activities involving children or vulnerable adults?

☐ Yes

☐ No

1.1b Do you keep a record of each time the premises is used by a Church group?

☐ Yes

☐ No

1.1c If yes, which of these details do you include in your parish records? Select all that apply.

☐ Group name

☐ Date & time of event(s)

☐ Group leader's contact details

☐ Date of Safeguarding Risk Assessment

1.2a Does each group have a separate Safeguarding Risk Assessment for its activities?

☐ Yes

☐ No

1.2b Do you retain a copy of those Safeguarding Risk Assessments?

☐ Yes

☐ No

1.2c What is the date of your last annual Safeguarding Risk Assessment for your church premises?

21/03/2024

1.2d Have you received any training in completing Safeguarding Risk Assessments?

☐ Yes

☐ No

1.4a Is the BCoS Guidance on the Safe Use of Social Media version 1.2 available in the parish?

☐ Yes

☐ No

1.4b Does the parish follow the BCoS guidance on the Safe Use of Social Media version 1.2?

☐ Yes

☐ No

1.4c Has the parish or diocese provided any awareness/guidance in relation to the safe use of technology or social media?

☐ Yes

☐ No

1.4d Do you provide internet access to the public in the church or on any parish premises?

☐ Yes

☐ No

1.4e Do you have adequate security measures applied to your internet network?

☐ Yes

☐ No

1.4f Do you livestream services from your church?

☐ Yes

☐ No

1.4g If so, do you display notices to advise the congregation of this?

☐ Yes

☐ No

1.4h Does your parish have a website?

☐ Yes

☐ No

1.4i Does your parish manage any communications via social media platforms, e.g. Facebook, X (formerly Twitter), Tik Tok or Instagram?

☐ Yes

☐ No

1.4j If so, do you display photographs or video footage of any of the activities taking place on church premises?

☐ Yes

☐ No

1.4k Do you provide any privacy warnings to those who are being photographed or filmed?

☐ Yes

☐ No

1.4l What measures do you take to protect the privacy of those using Church premises? Select all that apply.

☐ None

☐ Public notices on display of
livestreaming taking place

☐ Obtained parental consent for children

☐ Avoided display of personal contact
details

☐ Prevent children from being identifiable

☐ Public communication via parish
bulletins and website

1.5a Do you have any SAFE WORSHIP PLANS in place in your parish?

☐ Yes

☐ No

1.5b How many SAFE WORSHIP PLANS are currently in place?

e.g., 23

Number only

1.5c Has the parish or diocese provided any awareness/guidance in relation to how SAFE WORSHIP PLANS operate?

☐ Yes

☐ No

1.5d Please indicate any issues you have experienced in managing SAFE WORSHIP PLANS in your parish.



Standard 2: Safely recruiting clergy, religious, lay employees and volunteers

2.1a How many Parish EMPLOYEES and VOLUNTEERS are involved in working with children and/or vulnerable adults?

ex: 23

Number only

2.1b How many of those are members of the PVG scheme?

ex: 23

Number only

2.1c For how many of those did the parish receive a 'Letter of Approval'?

ex: 23

Number only

2.1d Do you allow any volunteers to commence their role without being in receipt of a 'Letter of Approval'?

☐ Yes

☐ No

2.1e Do you maintain a record of the activities of volunteers in receipt of a 'Letter of Approval'?

☐ Yes

☐ No

2.1f Number of Volunteers or Employees SUSPENDED from working with children and/or vulnerable adults because their PVG membership had lapsed.

ex: 23

Number only

2.1g Do you have a review process for checking on the recruitment status of employees and volunteers?

☐ Yes

☐ No

2.2a How many RESIDENT PRIESTS are engaged in active ministry in the parish?

e.g., 23

Number only

2.2b Do you share a priest with another parish?

☐ Yes

☐ No

2.2c How many DEACONS are engaged in active ministry in the parish?

e.g., 23

Number only

2.2d How many RETIRED CLERGY live in the parish?

e.g., 23

Number only

2.3a Did any VISITING CLERGY or RELIGIOUS provide ministry in the parish?

☐ Yes

☐ No

2.3b If yes, how many VISITING CLERGY or RELIGIOUS ministered in the parish?

ex: 23

Number only

2.3c Did you record details of the VISITING CLERGY or RELIGIOUS who ministered in the parish?

☐ Yes

☐ No

2.3d Which details do you record of VISITING CLERGY or RELIGIOUS who ministered in the parish?

☐ PVG status

☐ Name

☐ Home Diocese

☐ Visit dates

☐ Celebret shown

☐ Testimonial details

2.4a Did any SEMINARIANS or DIACONATE candidates undertake a pastoral placement within the parish?

☐ Yes

☐ No

2.4b If yes, which details do you record? Select all that apply.

☐ No records held

☐ Names

☐ Dates of placements

☐ Resident in parish house

☐ PVG Status

2.4c Where are these details held?

☐ in parish

☐ in Diocese

☐ don't know

Standard 3: Responding to safeguarding concerns and allegations of abuse

Safeguarding CONCERNS - Please refer to the guidance contained within paragraphs 3.2.2 and 3.2.4 of In God's Image.

3.2a Did the parish receive any reports of a Safeguarding CONCERN (not meeting Allegation threshold) as defined in paragraph 3.2.2 of In God's Image?

☐ Yes

☐ No

3.2b Total number of Safeguarding CONCERNS received.

ex: 23

Number only

3.2c Does the parish retain a record of the Safeguarding CONCERNS received?

☐ Yes

☐ No

3.2d Does the parish retain a record of the action taken to the Safeguarding CONCERNS received?

☐ Yes

☐ No

3.2e How confident is the parish that the Safeguarding CONCERNS received fall within the definition described in paragraph 3.2.2 and page 110 of In God's Image?

☐ Very confident

☐ Confident

☐ Unsure

☐ Not confident

3.2f Did the parish communicate the concerns received to the Diocesan Safeguarding Office?

☐ Yes

☐ No

3.2g Did the parish consult with the Diocesan Safeguarding Office before any action was taken?

☐ Yes

☐ No

Safeguarding ALLEGATIONS - Please refer to the guidance contained within paragraphs 3.2.3 and 3.2.4 of In God's Image.

3.2.1a Did the parish receive any ALLEGATIONS during the reporting period?

☐ Yes

☐ No

3.2.1b Number of ALLEGATIONS reported to the parish

ex: 23

Number only

3.2.1c Number of ALLEGATIONS received that related to children

ex: 23

Number only

3.2.1d Number of Child ALLEGATIONS referred to diocese

ex: 23

Number only

3.2.1e Number of ALLEGATIONS received that related to Vulnerable Adults

ex: 23

Number only

3.2.1f Number of Vulnerable Adult ALLEGATIONS referred to the diocese

ex: 23

Number only

3.3a Did you experience any difficulties in receiving and/or referring these disclosures?

☐ Yes

☐ No

3.3b If yes, can you indicate a reason for these difficulties? Select all that apply.

☐ Lack of training

☐ Lack of parish support

☐ Lack of written guidance

☐ Lack of diocesan support

3.3c Can you briefly summarise the difficulties that you experienced:

Type here...



Standard 4: Providing care and support for those who have experienced abuse

4.1a Did your parish provide some form of support to any survivors of abuse during the reporting period (1st January 2023 - 31st December 2023)?

☐ Yes

☐ No

4.1b Can you indicate the type of support being provided?

☐ Pastoral support from the Parish Priest ☐ Counselling arranged privately

☐ Counselling arranged through diocese

4.1c How many survivors of abuse are receiving this support.

ex: 23

Number only

4.1d Is your parish providing some form of support to any family members of survivors of abuse?

☐ Yes

☐ No

4.1e How many family members of survivors of abuse are receiving this support?

ex: 23

Number only

4.1f Please indicate the type of support being provided. Select all that apply.

☐ Pastoral support from the Parish Priest ☐ Counselling arranged privately

☐ Counselling arranged through diocese

4.1g Have you experienced any difficulties in providing support to survivors of abuse or family members?

☐ Yes

☐ No

4.1h Please indicate a reason for these difficulties.

☐ Lack of appropriate training

☐ Lack of parish support

☐ Lack of written guidance

☐ Lack of diocesan support

4.1i Please briefly summarise the difficulties that you experienced.

Type here...



Standard 6: Working together to develop a culture of care

6.3a Was completing this self-evaluation questionnaire discussed within the parish?

☐ Yes

☐ No

6.3b Who was involved in the discussion?

☐ Parish Priest

☐ PSC

☐ Other volunteers

6.3d Does the parish have a current Safeguarding Action Plan?

☐ Yes

☐ No

6.3e If no Safeguarding Action Plan has been prepared, please explain below.

Type here...

6.3f Who was involved in developing your Safeguarding Action Plan?

☐ PP & PSC

☐ PP only

☐ PSC only

☐ Other volunteers

☐ Others

6.3g How often does the Parish discuss the Safeguarding Action Plan?

☐ Monthly

☐ Quarterly

☐ Bi-annually

☐ Annually

☐ Other

6.3h Do the PP and the PSC meet to discuss Safeguarding issues?

☐ Yes

☐ No

6.3i How often do they meet to discuss the Safeguarding issues?

☐ Monthly

☐ Quarterly

☐ Bi-annually

☐ Annually

☐ Other

6.3j Was it necessary for the PP or PSC to contact the Diocese for advice on how to deal with a Safeguarding issue, concern or allegation?

☐ Yes

☐ No

6.3k How many times did PP contact the Diocese for advice on how to deal with a Safeguarding issue, concern or allegation?

ex: 23

Number

6.3l Do you retain a record of the contacts with the diocese?

☐ Yes

☐ No

6.3m What sources do you use to obtain information/advice on Safeguarding issues? Select all that apply.

☐ Parish website

☐ Diocesan website

☐ BCoS website

☐ SCSSA website

☐ Public authority websites

☐ Professional publications

☐ Internet search engines

6.3n What Safeguarding materials are made available in your parish? Select all that apply.

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Safeguarding Parish Contact poster | <input type="checkbox"/> What to Do poster |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Our Safeguarding Standards poster | <input type="checkbox"/> Our Safeguarding Culture of Care leaflet |
| <input type="checkbox"/> In God's Image poster | <input type="checkbox"/> Bishop's Annual Safeguarding letter |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Helpline posters - Support charities | <input type="checkbox"/> Information leaflet for survivors |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Parish action plan | <input type="checkbox"/> Resources from 2023 National Safeguarding Conference |

6.3p Did the parish hold the Annual Day of Prayer for those who have experienced abuse?

- ☐ Yes ☐ No

6.3q How did you promote the Annual Day of Prayer for those who have experienced abuse? Select all that apply.

- ☐ We publicised it in our parish bulletin, website or social media.
- ☐ It was announced at a parish service.
- ☐ We held a specific service to mark this day.
- ☐ We included specific prayers in our parish service(s) to mark this day.
- ☐ Not promoted in the parish

6.7a Do you think Safeguarding practice has improved in your parish since the last audit was completed?

- ☐ Yes ☐ No
- ☐ Not sure

6.7b How do you think it has improved? Select all that apply.

- ☐ We make it clear that the safety of children and vulnerable adults is paramount when involved in Church activities.
- ☐ We have reviewed all relevant risk assessments.
- ☐ We make it clear the parish has a zero tolerance of abuse in any form.
- ☐ We provide relevant information for those who may have experienced abuse.
- ☐ We reported any allegations of abuse to the Diocesan Safeguarding Advisor.
- ☐ Our Parish Safeguarding team is confident in how to respond to disclosures of abuse and to any safeguarding concerns.
- ☐ Our Parish Safeguarding team is confident that they can respond compassionately to those who have experienced abuse.
- ☐ We proactively seek relevant training and awareness sessions for our Parish Safeguarding team.
- ☐ We proactively seek relevant training and awareness sessions for our Employees and Volunteers.

6.7c Please provide any additional detail relevant to Safeguarding improvement.

6.7d What do you think is needed to help you improve Safeguarding practice within your parish? Select all that apply.

- ☐ Better information and guidance being made available online.
- ☐ Safeguarding training and awareness being made available online.
- ☐ More communication between the PP and PSC.
- ☐ Regular communications from the Diocesan Safeguarding Team.
- ☐ Regular communications from the SCSSA.
- ☐ More focussed training on how to respond to disclosures of abuse and to reports of safeguarding concerns.
- ☐ Opportunities to learn from best practice in Safeguarding from other faith groups or agencies.
- ☐ Better networking opportunities.

6.7e Please provide any additional detail relevant to question 6.7d



Standard 7: Training and support for all responsible for safeguarding

7.1a Have all Parish VOLUNTEERS participated in mandatory Safeguarding Induction training?

☐ Yes

☐ No

7.1b Which Safeguarding Induction training was offered by your parish?

☐ Induction Part 1

☐ Induction Part 2

☐ New Induction training package

☐ Other

7.1c Number of PARISH VOLUNTEERS who have yet to receive Safeguarding Induction training.

ex: 23

Number only

7.2a Number of PARISH VOLUNTEERS who participated in any Safeguarding training in 2023

ex: 23

Number only

7.2b Number of PARISH CLERGY who participated in any Safeguarding training in 2023

ex: 23

Number only

7.2c Please indicate which Safeguarding training sessions were undertaken by PARISH CLERGY in 2023: Select all that apply.

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> None | <input type="checkbox"/> All sessions listed |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Induction Part 1 | <input type="checkbox"/> Induction Part 2 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Clergy Assembly | <input type="checkbox"/> Diocesan Safeguarding Training |
| <input type="checkbox"/> National Safeguarding Conference 2023 | <input type="checkbox"/> New Induction Training package |

7.2d Please indicate which Safeguarding training sessions were undertaken by the PSC in 2023: Select all that apply.

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> None | <input type="checkbox"/> All sessions listed |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Induction Part 1 | <input type="checkbox"/> Induction Part 2 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Diocesan Safeguarding Training | <input type="checkbox"/> National Safeguarding Conference 2023 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> New Induction Training package | |

7.2e Has any of the Parish Safeguarding Team received any training in Trauma Informed Practice?

- ☐ Yes
 ☐ No

7.2f If yes, who has received this training? Select all that apply.

- | | |
|--|------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Parish Priest | <input type="checkbox"/> Employees |
| <input type="checkbox"/> PSC(s) | <input type="checkbox"/> Others |

7.2g Do you have a record of the training provided?

- ☐ Yes
 ☐ No

7.3a From the following list of suggested Safeguarding training subjects, please rate the level of importance to the parish in helping discharge its Safeguarding responsibilities.

	High	Medium	Low
Safeguarding Risk Assessment	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Trauma-informed response to disclosures	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Management of high risk offenders	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Supporting respondents	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Refresher of safe recruitment procedures	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Online bite-sized IGI modules	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Shared "best practice" training day for PP and PSC together	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

7.3b Are there any Safeguarding TRAINING NEEDS identified for the CLERGY?

☐ Yes

☐ No

7.3c Please list the Safeguarding TRAINING NEEDS identified for the CLERGY?

7.3d Are there any Safeguarding TRAINING NEEDS you have identified for the PSC?

☐ Yes

☐ No

7.3e Please list the Safeguarding TRAINING NEEDS identified for the PSC?

7.3f Are there any Safeguarding TRAINING NEEDS you have identified for VOLUNTEERS?

☐ Yes

☐ No

7.3g Please list the Safeguarding TRAINING NEEDS you have identified for VOLUNTEERS?

7.3h Please indicate the view of the Parish Safeguarding team of the Safeguarding training you have received:

☐ Highly effective

☐ Effective

☐ Adequate

☐ Non-effective

☐ Needs improvement

☐ Poor

7.3i Please provide narrative context to the answer provided in 7.3h.

7.3j Has the Parish received any of the resources produced for the National Safeguarding Conference 2023?

☐ Yes

☐ No

7.3k Did you find those resources helpful and informative?

☐ Yes

☐ No

7.3l Do you wish these resources made available to you?

☐ Yes

☐ No

Standard 8: Planning for continuous improvement in safeguarding

8.1a Has the Parish Priest and/or PSC communicated with the parish community on some aspect of Safeguarding?

☐ Yes

☐ No

8.1b When did this last take place?

☐ Within the last 3 months

☐ Within the last 6 months

☐ Within the last year

☐ Within the last 18 months

8.1c What form of communication took place? Select all that apply.

☐ Public address by PP

☐ Public address by PSC

☐ Via Parish Bulletin

☐ Via Parish website

☐ Via Parish social media channels

☐ PSC at volunteer group meetings

☐ PP at volunteer group meetings

☐ Bidding prayers

☐ Annual Safeguarding Letter

8.1d Does the parish retain a record of this communication?

☐ Yes

☐ No

8.2a Are you confident the parish is able to plan for continuous improvement in Safeguarding practice?

☐ Yes

☐ No

8.2b What support can be made available to help the parish plan? Select all that apply.

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Training on action planning | <input type="checkbox"/> Expert assistance from diocese |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Improved provision of online resources | <input type="checkbox"/> Effective sharing of best practice |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Improved self-evaluation feedback | <input type="checkbox"/> Improved self-evaluation guidance |
| <input type="checkbox"/> More training opportunities | <input type="checkbox"/> More networking opportunities |

8.2c Would you like to offer any other comments or suggestions in relation to the Safeguarding practice within your parish?

- ☐ Yes
 ☐ No

8.2d Please provide your comments or suggestions below?

Type here...

8.2e Do you have plans to improve Safeguarding practice within the parish in the next year?

- ☐ Yes
 ☐ No

8.2f Please list the improvements you have planned.

Type here...

8.5a What was your experience when completing this self-evaluation questionnaire? Select any that apply.

- ☐ Difficult
 - ☐ Simple
 - ☐ Time consuming
 - ☐ Difficulty obtaining required information
 - ☐ Lack of instruction/guidance on completing the form
 - ☐ Submission deadline unreasonable
 - ☐ Needed more support to complete it
-

SUBMITTING YOUR COMPLETED QUESTIONNAIRE

NB Your completed questionnaire must be submitted by 24th May 2024

You should review the pages of the self-evaluation questionnaire to ensure that you are satisfied with all the entries. When you are ready to submit your completed form, click on the **SUBMIT FORM** button below. An immediate acknowledgement of your submission should appear on screen.

Within a few minutes an email message will be sent to the email address you have provided. This message will provide an **EDIT** link (in case you need to change your submission) and a **PDF** of your submitted questionnaire.

Ticking "I consent" below indicates that you agree to receiving emails about this.

(NB You may need to check your JUNK or SPAM folder for email messages.)

Please select "I consent" below to confirm that you consent to the information you provide in this form being shared with the SCSSA and with your Diocesan Safeguarding Advisor for the purposes of reviewing Safeguarding practice in your parish. *

☐ I consent
