

Safeguarding Update

for Superintendents, Circuit and Church Safeguarding Officers and Trainers –
September 2023



1. Update to Safeguarding Policy and Procedures for the Methodist Church in Britain July 2023 - changes as listed below:

- There is now an 'Executive Summary' of the most significant sections of the policy
- Guidance for LEPs has been updated
- Anti-Bullying policy with additional flowchart included
- Bookmarking - some of the longer policies on the page have been bookmarked to make navigation easier.
- Appendices - some of the appendices to the main policy including the Anti-bullying policy, the LEP guidance and the Procedures for safer working practices with children have been extracted for easier reference.

2. Training Update

2.1 Advanced Module 2023

- The Advanced Module 2023 has undergone its 4 yearly update and all subsequent sessions delivered locally will use the updated materials.
- For participants these can be found at: [Advanced Module 2023 Edition \(Participants\) \(methodist.org.uk\)](https://www.methodist.org.uk)
- Participants undertaking the units will now be registered on the MCBX platform.

2.2 Foundation Module

- The Foundation Module is imminently about to begin its 4 yearly update and the good news is that the Connexional Safeguarding Committee have agreed that, although we will still need to make provision for some face-to-face training, this will become a predominantly online module.
- Hopefully, this will mean that with far less pressure on our Foundation Module trainers some may be able to take the opportunity to step back and rest a little whilst others may feel inspired to join those of us who deliver the Advanced Module
- If anyone has any comments which they would like to be shared with the Module review group, please let me know as soon as possible

2.3 Safeguarding Foundation Module now available online: please share locally.

Available dates:

Monday 9th Oct 23 19.30 – 21.30

Weds 15th Nov 23 19.30 – 21.30

Tues 12th Dec 23 13.30 – 15.30

Sat 27th Jan 24 10.00 – 12.00

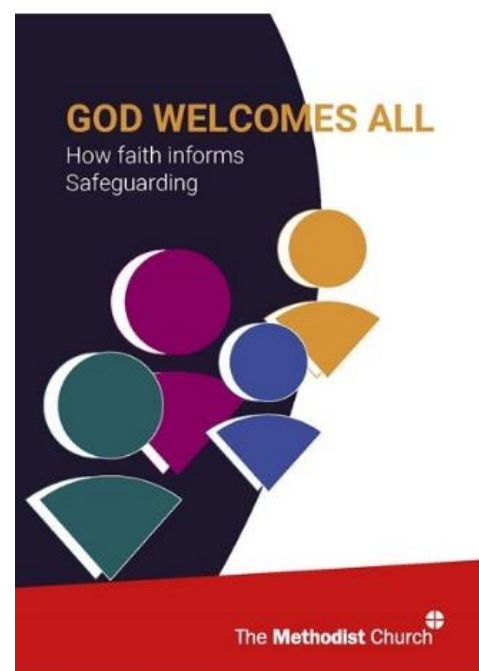
These can all be booked via:

[District Events | Bolton and Rochdale Methodist District \(barmd.org.uk\)](https://barmd.org.uk)

4. Theology of Safeguarding – God Welcomes All: How faith informs safeguarding

God Welcomes All is a four-session study guide containing new short films with activities and questions for discussion and reflection and encourages all members of the Methodist Church to look at our Christian calling that offers a welcome to all, whilst ensuring that our worship and wider church life is safe for everyone.

Once available these will be distributed with the other materials to all participants on the face-to-face Advanced Safeguarding Module, but I would also suggest that you ensure you have copies locally too. They can currently be pre-ordered free of charge (you pay only P&P) from Methodist Publishing: God Welcomes All How faith informs safeguarding - Other - SFGTOS23



[Safeguarding \(methodistpublishing.org.uk\)](https://methodistpublishing.org.uk)

5. Safeguarding Sunday - 19 November 2023



Sunday 19th November 2023 is Safeguarding Sunday, a day of annual recognition of safeguarding across our churches and Circuits.

This year let's all get as involved as we can!!

It couldn't be easier as you can register to participate and download your pack here: [Safeguarding Sunday | Thirtyone:eight \(thirtyoneeight.org\)](https://thirtyoneeight.org).

You can do anything from take a whole service, ensure appropriate hymns and prayers are used or show a video from the thirtyoneeight website.

6. As ever



A huge thank you to you all for everything you do to keep our Districts, circuits and churches safe for all.

**Helen Bolton
District Safeguarding Officer**