

Welcome to the February 2025 Safeguarding Newsletter

Firstly, a very belated Happy New Year to you all. It has been a couple of months since the last newsletter, and it has been an incredibly busy 2 months.

I write this newsletter having recently returned from the Methodist Safeguarding Conference in the Midlands. This was an invaluable few days with some good discussions and much food for thought on various topics, that I will be looking to cascade out over the coming months through a variety of sharing. I apologise for this word heavy Newsletter.

One question I came away from the Conference is contemplating is; What is Learning and Why is it important?

Learning is the process of gaining new skills, knowledge, understanding, and values. This is something people can do by themselves, although it's generally made easier with education: the process of helping someone or a group of others to learn.

Learning and education impart more than just knowledge and skills however. They also transmit the values, attitudes, and behaviors we want to embed in our Connexion, District, and individual contexts. I invite everyone to play their important part in us continuing to embed and grow the positive Culture of Safeguarding we have in the District. With best wishes,

Neil

DBS Disclosure Workshop

I have just signed up for an online workshop designed to enhance knowledge surrounding DBS processes. It is advertised as; *This workshop is suitable for anyone who has responsibility for engaging with DBS processes and legislation within their organisation.*

If anyone else thinks this would be useful in their role it is on Tuesday 29th April from 1pm-3pm and you can book a place via the below link.

https://www.eventbrite.com/e/dbs-disclosure-workshop-understanding-eligibility-for-dbs-checks-tickets-1223267689589?aff=odcleoeventsincollection&keep_tld=1

Safeguarding Forum – The next Safeguarding forum will be on Monday 12th May. I wanted to give everyone as much notice as possible for this. The last one was very well received with members of the Survivor Awareness Group sharing with us and I am looking to secure a speaker for this one also. As soon as I have more details surrounding the topic I will let you know, but the link to register is below.

<https://zoom.us/meeting/register/vSVBGCARTHac3GDhK0hUIw>

The Learning Network

I spoke above a little about the importance of learning, and we are very fortunate to work alongside the Learning Network in many things we do in Methodism. The overall aim of the Learning Network is to support, encourage and inspire Methodist people in all aspects of Our Calling as together we seek to be an inclusive, justice seeking, evangelistic and growing church.

Sharing responsibility with others within the Connexional Team and key stakeholders within the districts, circuits and churches, the Learning Network works primarily with lay and ordained church leaders, equipping them as they in turn seek to equip all God's people.

I would encourage you if not done already to have a look at what they can offer on the [Connexional website](#) pages, and perhaps subscribe to their newsletter which you can find on the webpage.

Upcoming Safeguarding Training dates

Safeguarding Training demand has soared as we have hit the New Year. New dates are being put in the calendar regularly, and I am thankful for the support of the trainers across the District along with the Learning Network for all that they do.

Dates below that are not sold out;

[Thursday 6th March – Foundation Module Face to Face Wymondham Methodist Church 1pm – 4pm](#)

[Tuesday 25th March - Foundation Module Online 10am – 1pm](#) **1 Place Left**

[Wednesday 9th April – Foundation Module Face to Face Beccles Hungate Methodist Church 10am – 1pm](#)

[Tuesday 3rd June - Advanced Module Face to Face Ely Methodist Church 1.30pm – 5.30pm](#)

We have a couple of further dates in the pipeline also including an evening Advanced Module gathered session in April so if this may be of interest to you look out for the link coming soon on the [District Safeguarding page](#), and contact [Safeguarding Training Administrator Sarah Young](#) to book onto MCBX for the pre work needed for this session