

Safeguarding report for 26 & 29 May APCMs 2022

- **Alistair Ghinn** has provided a full *Youth* and *Mission* work update for APCMs, however; the *REDLANDS* paperwork refresh that the Safeguarding team completed with Alistair in May 2021 has helped to expedite Safe Recruitment and communications about REDLANDS, Youth and Mission work.
- **Starting with *Ducklings***, which launched in mid-May 2021 there has been a gradual uplift in Harbour Churches community activity since our last Benefice APCMs. The *Pump Café* at the St James Centre, *Soup Lunches* at the Church Room, *Parish visits* from Afghan Refugees, a *Peninsula support group* for Ukrainian host families have all launched in under a year. All group activities are managed and supported by teams of volunteers. All volunteers have been Safe Recruited: responding to person specifications, providing referees, completing online Safeguarding training and completing online DBS certificate applications as necessary. Twenty people have been Safe Recruited to support *Parish visits* alone.
- ***Ducklings* case study provided by Lois:** *Ducklings* Parent and Toddler Group opened in May 2021 and runs every Tuesday morning at the St James Centre during term time. All volunteer helpers were Safely Recruited with clear role descriptions for helpers and team leaders. All volunteers completed Foundations level Safeguarding training and team leaders successfully applied for DBS certificates. Some volunteers also completed Basic Awareness Safeguarding training. There are currently eight helpers and team leaders who operated on a weekly rota system with an identified team leader for each session. The team leader is responsible for completing the pre- and post-



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session safe spaces checklist each week. A formal risk assessment for *Ducklings* activities was conducted in January 2022. In September 2021 *Ducklings* held a Paediatric First Aid course in the St James Centre for volunteers and church members. Regular team meetings are held to discuss safety measures and weekly updates are shared on the *Ducklings* WhatsApp group.

- **Training summary for *Parish visits* from Afghan Refugees:**
Foundations level Safeguarding training has been completed by 19 volunteers to date. Some volunteers have also completed Basic Awareness training.

- **Safeguarding training update May 2021 to April 2022:** The period May 2021 to April 2022 was quite busy for Safeguarding training as Covid restrictions were relaxed and church volunteer groups started up again and new groups were established. In 2021 Safeguarding requirements were changed and PTOs and church wardens were not required to have Leadership level (C2) qualifications any longer. Instead, they are expected to have Foundations level training (C1). Most safeguarding training is now undertaken online and volunteers for *Ducklings*, *Soup Lunches*, Youth Services, and the *Parish Afghan refugee visits* undertook relevant training as follows:
 - i. Leadership Training (C2) certificate = 3 people
 - ii. Foundations Training (C1) certificate = 40 people
 - iii. Basic Awareness Training (C0) certificate = 17 people

- **Future proofing volunteer recruitment:** every volunteer that has obtained a DBS certificate has been urged to register for the update



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service. This means that their certificate is automatically updated via the update service, and a prospective employer can check the update service rather than asking volunteers to apply for a new DBS certificate. Most of the *Parish visits* volunteers and Youth / Mission volunteers are registered with the update service.

- **Website security:** the Harbour Churches website has been updated so that it is now secure, which will mean that more people searching for the website via mobile phones, or tablets will be able to view it. Previously most internet browsers (eg Google Chrome) would stop access to the website because it was not secure.