



Good Practice for Maintaining a Safe Environment in the Belfry for Young People

1. Parents' consent in writing must be sought prior to commencing teaching, outings or Guild/Association meeting visits and they must be made aware, in advance, of the content and arrangements for teaching, outings or visits. Any medical conditions of the young person must be established in advance as must the agreement that the parents/carers are responsible for delivering and collecting the young person. Parents/carers are entitled to attend all training sessions and must be invited to do so.
2. A Permission to Ring Form must be completed and kept safe according to current GDPR. <https://kcacr.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2026/04/Consent-and-permission-to-ring-Mar26.pdf>
3. The appropriate level of Safeguarding Training must be undertaken by ringers in accordance with local Diocesan guidelines.
4. If there is a child who it is believed is at immediate risk of harm call the emergency services on 999 and alert the Diocesan Safeguarding Team. Any behaviour of adult ringers that gives cause for concern must be reported to the Parish Safeguarding Officer who will advise as to any further action. The CCCBR Code for Ringing may be adopted: <https://cccbr.org.uk/bellringing/code-for-ringing/>
5. Keep an attendance register which must be kept safe according to current GDPR.
6. Young People must be supervised by adults who have completed the appropriate DBS checks for their roles.
7. Always have two adults (preferably one of each gender) present whenever young people are ringing, being supervised, or taught.
8. Touching must only be that appropriate for teaching, supervision and/or in an emergency.
9. Physical touching should be kept to a minimum consistent with safe teaching. Where tactile prompts are needed, eg to correct technique, this must be underpinned by informed and ongoing consent of the learner and, if appropriate, parent/carer.
10. Local tower arrangements must always be approved by the Incumbent and PCC in line with the Parish Safeguarding Policy. The Tower Captain must have a copy of the Parish Safeguarding Policy and ensure that it is accessible.
11. All Guilds and Associations must appoint a Safeguarding Officer who can advise on safeguarding matters and who maintains working relationships with the Diocesan Safeguarding Teams.
12. Good liaisons must be established and maintained between Tower Captains and Parish Safeguarding Officers.
13. All visiting groups need to adhere to the safeguarding requirements of the local church. This may include ensuring relevant DBS checks and Safeguarding Training has been met.