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Please note new email address.

The Methodist Church

East Anglia District Safeguarding Report September 2020

Coronavirus: Safeguarding Considerations

The Connexion have published the following helpful guide to go alongside the TMCP property guidance:

https://www.methodist.org.uk/about-us/coronavirus/safeguarding-considerations/

Training

All CSS Foundation and Advanced Module training is suspended due to the COVID-19 pandemic. However, the District has worked with the Learning Network to produce Foundation Module 2020 Training for Trainers material which is now available. Existing trainers should all have been sent information about this. Get in touch if you would like to know more about being a Foundation Module Trainer.

Emerging Safeguarding Concerns

Current headlines point to a 300% increase in referrals to some local authorities between March and May 2020 that have a domestic violence aspect. There is also concern about a growth in reported cases of self-neglect. As our local churches reopen our ministers and pastoral teams are encouraged to keep a close eye on vulnerable individuals now starting to venture out.

Policies

As we start a new Connexional year, please remember to review Church and Circuit Policies (see website for latest template) and check your keyholders!

https://www.methodist.org.uk/safeguarding/

Safeguarding Forum

June 9th saw the first virtual Safeguarding Forum via “Zoom” . Attendance was the best yet for a Forum and the feedback from it was extremely positive and reflected the high level of engagement from across the District. The focus was on the current situation of lockdown in the churches and how we are starting to emerge. Please see the Methodist Church website for the current guidance.

The next Forum is on Tuesday 22nd September at 7.15. If you would like to join us, please email for the Zoom link. We will be joined by Allison Hassey a member of the District Safeguarding Group who is Head of Safeguarding for Suffolk CYPS.