



January 2022

To the leaders of Faith Organisations in Calderdale,

RE: Making sure that Children and Young People, and Adults at Risk in Calderdale who are supported by faith settings, are as safe as possible.

Dear Sir or Madam,

Calderdale Safeguarding Children Partnership and Safeguarding Adults Board want to take this opportunity to provide you with information to support you to do what is necessary to protect the most vulnerable. We want everyone in Calderdale to be safe from harm and you have an important role to do what is required by law to protect the children and adults at risk.

There is lots of helpful information in this letter, but if you do have any queries or specific questions please just ask. Here are some national and local resources which can support you, your volunteers and colleagues.

Free safeguarding training and eLearning is available for Calderdale leaders, staff and volunteers: www.safeguarding.calderdale.gov.uk/professionals/training-and-development/.

Further support and training is offered by Social Care Institute for Excellence specifically for faith groups here: www.scie.org.uk/safeguarding/faith-groups.

All organisations must report any concerns or allegations of inappropriate behaviour regarding the behaviour and conduct of staff or volunteers who have contact with children, young people, or adults with care or support needs.

For allegations made against adults working with children in a position of trust, contact the Calderdale Local Authority Designated Officer (LADO): 01422 394086 or lado.admin@calderdale.gov.uk.

Similarly, for allegations against staff or volunteers working with Adults at Risk, the PIPOT (Persons in Positions of Trust) manages these allegations. You should report any concerns regarding Adults at Risk to Gateway to Care on 01422 393000 or alternatively complete the [Safeguarding Adults Alert form](#). Please also see our website www.safeguarding.calderdale.gov.uk/report-concerns/ for more information.

Thirdly, if you have any immediate concerns about the safety or welfare of a child you must contact the Calderdale Multi Agency Screening Team (MAST) on 01422 393336. If you have any immediate concerns about the safety and welfare of an adult, please contact Gateway to Care on 01422 393000. If you are contacting Out of Hours or on Weekends, please contact Emergency Duty Team on 01422 288000.

Whilst these primarily relate to current concerns and allegations, the matter of past or historical allegations is equally important and you will be aware that you should raise these with the Police.

I appreciate that forming a judgment as to what to do can be difficult, so it is important that you make use of guidance that may be available in terms of the relevant umbrella organisations (for example, The Interfaith Council, or Voluntary Sector Infrastructure Alliance www.vsialliance.org.uk/Safeguarding)

Furthermore, there should be a named safeguarding contact in each setting, who would need to be trained to give advice and guidance around Safeguarding Concerns and comply with statutory obligations.

If you require further information regarding safeguarding Children and Young People, and Adults at Risk in Calderdale, please visit our website www.safeguarding.calderdale.gov.uk.

Yours sincerely,

Julia Caldwell

Calderdale Safeguarding Partnerships Manager
Calderdale Safeguarding Children Partnership
Calderdale Safeguarding Adults Board