January 2021

Dear Friends,

**BUGB EXCELLENCE IN SAFEGUARDING - UPDATE FOR CHURCH WORKERS AND LEADERS**

Thank you for contacting us to let us know that you wish to view our Excellence in Safeguarding Update film. It is important to stress that this online training is a temporary measure until it is safe to resume ‘in-person’ training, and does not replace the requirement for church workers and leaders to attend ‘in-person’ Level 2 and Level 3 trainings. The online training is therefore not certificated.

We will make sure that all churches are made aware as soon as it is possible for us to resume our normal ‘in-person’ training schedule and once this is possible, all ministers will have a 2 year grace period in which to complete Level 2 and Level 3 training as required. All other church workers and leaders will have the usual 4 years.

The coronavirus pandemic continues to affect us all and we know that many churches have stepped up to provide more support and care for those in their local communities. Food banks, deliveries of medication, online services and groups and many different sorts of online, mobile and telephone pastoral care mean that churches are faced with some new safeguarding situations alongside all of those that normally form part of church life.

**Getting the most from the Safeguarding Update film**

Our Safeguarding Update film covers the key points of both Level 2 and Level 3 training and is accompanied by a **Resources Pack attached to this email**. You don’t need to have the pack to hand when you watch the film, but please take time to read it afterwards to add to your understanding. It includes specific guidance about the impact of coronavirus and the ways in which churches might respond to safeguarding concerns.

The film lasts for 90 minutes and there is a break point in the middle. You are welcome to watch the whole film in one go, or you may prefer to split it into two sections over two days. Throughout the film there are four ‘Stop and Consider’ points that encourage you to pick up paper and pen and reflect on the themes that have been covered as well as thinking about safeguarding practice in your church. At the end of the film you will be asked to think about action points for you and your church, and you might helpfully share these with your church’s Designated Person for Safeguarding (DPS).

If you have attended one of our training courses before, we hope that you find the film of help as an update and reminder. If you are new to safeguarding in your church, it is recommended that you take time to read our Gateway to Safeguarding booklet which you can download as a PDF [here](https://www.baptist.org.uk/Articles/494999/Gateway_to_Level.aspx). Your Designated Person for Safeguarding (DPS) will be able to provide you with a copy of your church safeguarding policy and procedures to help you get started too.

Here is the link to the Excellence in Safeguarding Update Film for Church Workers and Leaders:

<https://youtu.be/_eEgzT6WZv4>

Please note that this is an unlisted link i.e. only accessible to those who have been given the link. **Please could I therefore ask you not to share this link with anyone else.**

**Your feedback**

After watching the film, we would really appreciate your feedback. Please complete the **attached feedback form** and return by email to Mrs Becky Nicholls at [safeguarding.emba@gmail.com](mailto:safeguarding.emba@gmail.com).

If after watching the film, you have any questions or queries, please speak to your church Designated Person for Safeguarding (DPS) in the first instance. If further help and advice is needed, then please contact one of our EMBA Safeguarding Advisers (details below) or your Regional Minister.

**EMBA Safeguarding Advisers**

**Mr Alan Davies** (based in Nottinghamshire)

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Further safeguarding information and resources can be found at [www.embaptists.co.uk/safeguarding](http://www.embaptists.co.uk/safeguarding).

Best wishes in Christ,

**Becky**

Mrs Becky Nicholls

**EMBA Safeguarding Administrator**