



# Excellence in Safeguarding

## Level 3

Welcome!

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## Purpose and aims

- To help you understand the key safeguarding responsibilities of church leaders
- To build your confidence in responding to concerns and supporting all those affected by abuse
- To reflect on how your church's safeguarding policy and procedures are working

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## Plan for our session



```

graph TD
    A[Setting the scene] --> B[Leadership and safeguarding]
    B --> C[Case Studies]
    C --> D[Media and communications]
    D --> E[Risk assessments and safeguarding contracts]
    E --> F[Pastoral care and forgiveness]
    F --> A
  
```

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## Group Agreement

**We agree to:**

- Respect confidentiality, unless it puts others at risk
- Value diversity
- Listen without interrupting
- Be respectful
- Participate in learning
- Ask questions
- Look after ourselves and others

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**A quick recap...**

BAPTISTS TOGETHER

The 4 R's	Little TED
The 4W's	What's it not your job to do?
Listen, observe and pass it on	


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**The Church Environment**

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The church is one of the few places where all are welcome.



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**The words of Jesus**

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**Matthew 25: 40**  
 “And the King will answer them, ‘Truly I say to you, as you did it to one of the least of these my brothers, you did it to me.’”

**Matthew 18:5-6**  
 “Whoever welcomes one such child in my name welcomes me. If anyone causes one of these little ones to stumble, it would be better for them to have a large millstone hung around their neck and to be drowned in the sea.”

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**Leadership behaviour**

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- Power and authority
- Abuse of trust
- Supporting and training young leaders
- Encouraging self disclosure if leaders are struggling

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## Healthy boundaries



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## Healthy boundaries

- Watch for transference
- Don't get out of your depth
- Watch for attention seeking behaviour
- Be accountable
- Be aware of our own need for love and attention

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## Pastoral care and support

Church is one of the few places where you will find:


- People who have experienced abuse
- People who have been accused of abuse
- People who have been convicted of abuse





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## Supporting survivors

- The space to tell their story to someone they trust
- Someone to really 'hear' them
- A compassionate response
- Protection from further harm





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## Case Study 1

### An unexpected discovery...

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## An unexpected discovery...

### Using your 4Rs:

- Recognise
- Respond
- Record
- 4W's - Who, what, where, when*
- Report

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## Reporting adult at risk concerns


Concerns should be reported to the church's Designated Person for Safeguarding (and subsequently the statutory authorities, where necessary) if:

- The adult has given consent
- The adult does not have the capacity to give consent
- There is a public interest concern (risk of harm to others in order to prevent a crime)

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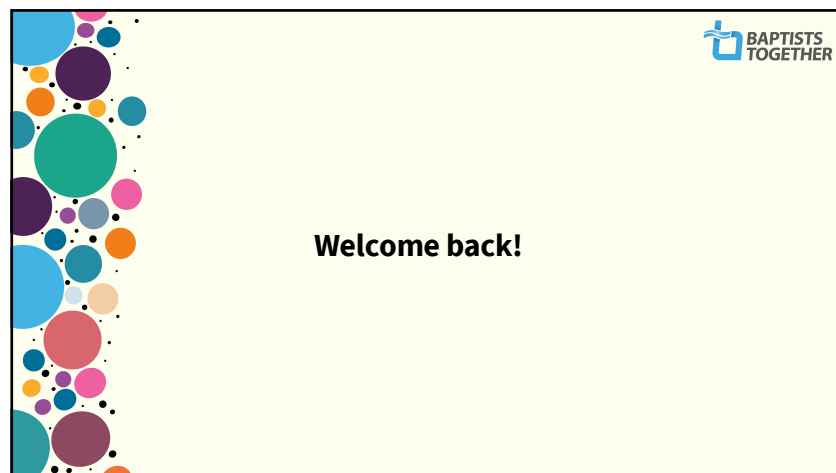



## Coffee Break

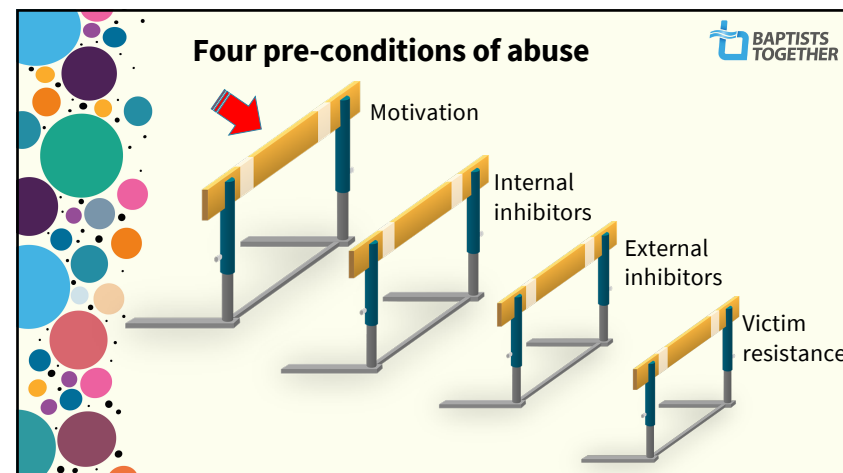


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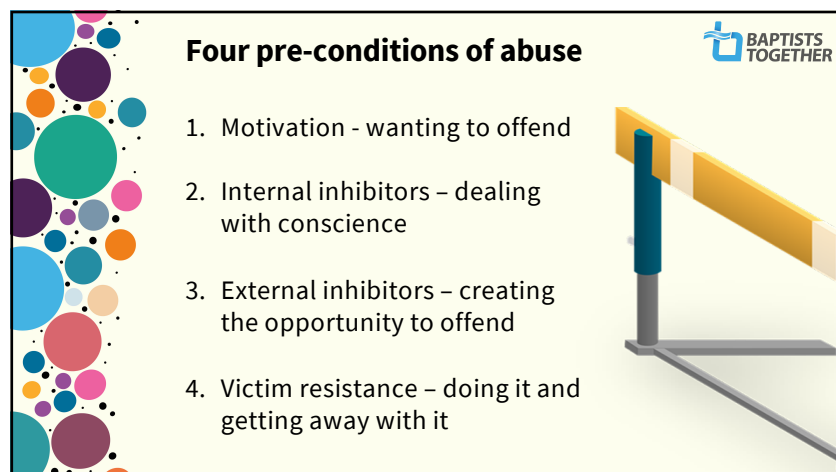
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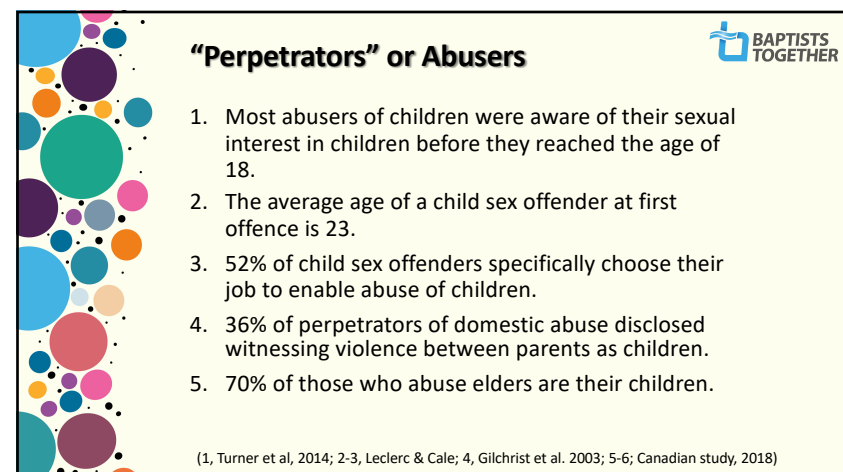
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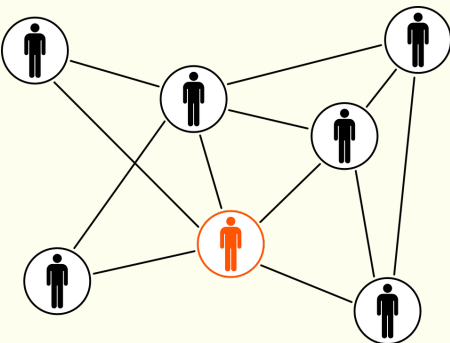
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**Case Study 2**


For this case study, you are you!



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**Elsie has something to share**



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**Katie is worried...**



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**Elsie tells more of her story...**




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## Understanding the impact



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## Criminal proceedings

- Is someone an offender when charged?
- Does this change with a police caution?
- When criminal proceedings are not pursued?
- After conviction...?
- When criminal proceedings fail?

**DANGER**


Remember: DBS checks alone are NOT the answer

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## Media and communications

- Press statements
- Data protection and privacy of those involved
- Character references
- Attending court with those charged with safeguarding offences




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## Safeguarding Contracts

- Purpose of a safeguarding contract
- Carrying out a risk assessment
- Putting the right measures in place
- Monitoring group
- Support for all involved




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## Risk Assessments

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- Why is a risk assessment so important before a contract is put in place?
- How can we assess risk effectively?
- What to do if the situation changes



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## Offender Contracts

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“Truly repentant sex offenders will understand and accept the limitations within the contract. Churches who implement contracts for sexual offenders are not being judgemental. Instead, they are recognising that true repentance is demonstrated by embracing accountability and a lifetime process of authentic transformation.”

Simon Bass

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## Forgiveness

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## Forgiveness


BAPTISTS TOGETHER

- Forgiveness is not about forgetting.
- Forgiveness is not about condoning the behaviour or saying it was okay.
- Forgiveness does not wipe away the accountability and responsibility for whatever the event is. You may forgive a perpetrator. They may still go to prison for ten years.


Taken from MOSAC website: Mothers of Sexually Abused Children

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## Forgiveness




- Forgiveness does not create the possibility of fixing the problem. It does not mean that something can be undone.
- Forgiveness does not mean that you have to trust them.

Taken from MOSAC website: Mothers of Sexually Abused Children

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## Reflection



- Working practices and behaviours
- Training and support
- Safeguarding Practice
- What next...?






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## Important Contacts




- Local Police ('101' if not an emergency)
- LADO / Designated Officer (children only)
- Children's Social Services
- Adult Social Services

***Don't forget to put your regional association safeguarding lead's number in your phone!***


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## Guidance and more resources



All of our policies, procedures and guidance notes are available on the Baptists Together website at:  
[www.baptist.org.uk/safeguarding](http://www.baptist.org.uk/safeguarding)




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**Finally...**

The regional and national safeguarding teams pray regularly for you and your work.


**Thank you** for all the ways that you serve your church.




*Please complete the evaluation sheets before leaving today and inform future training!*



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**May the Grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,  
The love of God,  
And the fellowship of the Holy Spirit,  
Be with us all, evermore  
Amen**

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