



November 2022 Newsletter



Safeguarding in Faith Communities

Welcome to our November newsletter! If you have any questions or content suggestions for next month's edition, please contact <u>Junaid Akhtar</u> (Project Co-Ordinator).

Big opportunity, don't miss out!

The Safeguarding in Faith Communities project is making steady progress, as more people from faith organisations join us to help advise and develop the safeguarding resources and training for places of worship.

The project has three key elements:

- 1) Developing a Designated Safeguarding Leads (DSLs) Network so every faith setting can have access to a trained safeguarding advisor.
- 2) Access to good quality Safeguarding Training we are creating a repository of Safeguarding training and resources specifically designed for faith-based organisations.
- 3) Safeguarding Toolkit and Guidance faith organisations will have access to up to date digital Guidance and resources on Child Protection and Adult Safeguarding.

We are looking for volunteers to join the project to help create the right safeguarding guidance and resources for your place of worship. If you are interested in knowing more or know someone who could help, please email us.

Working together!

Birmingham Safeguarding Children Partnership is working in close collaboration with the Birmingham Council of Faiths (BCF) and Faith members across the city, to build upon the fantastic work that is already being done to safeguard children, support families and the vulnerable.

We try to capture emerging national and regional good practice, by working closely with 'Faith Alliance' a multifaith network which brings together more than 200 faith members, groups and organisations across the West Midlands focused on reducing violence.

We have also forged a strong relationship with the National Working Group (NWG) who support practitioners working with children at risk of exploitation. Earlier this year, NWG appointed a Faith Lead in recognition of the important role faith communities play in safeguarding children.

Events: Click each event for the full title, further details or to book on.

- Faith in Action Summit 2022 30th Nov
- Child Abuse Linked to Faith & Belief 1st Dec
- Midlands Safeguarding Conf. 2nd Dec
- Faith Alliance Toolkit Workshop 5th Dec

Each faith-based organisation is unique, and we recognise and acknowledge the important work you do to support, care and look after communities and families, especially children.

Penny Thompson CBE, Independent Chair BSCP

Project Team Successfully Lobbies for changes to Faith Covenant

The Safeguarding in Faith Communities Project has been influential in the recent refresh of the Birmingham Faith Covenant.

The Covenant, which was signed on 11th November, is a formal commitment between faith communities and key statutory and voluntary sector organisations to a set of principles that guide engagement, aiming to improve collaborative partnership working and promote open, practical working on all levels.

The Project Team lobbied for the Covenant to be expanded and enhanced to make specific reference to safeguard, support and protect children, families and the vulnerable.

We look forward to being part of the Birmingham Faith Covenant Partnership Group which will oversee the implementation of the Covenant which was endorsed by faith members. The group will be an integral part of the action plan to ensure commitment is followed through by all who signed.

Free Training:

- Trauma in Early Years 15th Dec
- Community Coach Training
- <u>Contextual Safeguarding multiple</u>
 dates available





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