

The Anglican Church of Luxembourg

Safeguarding/Child Protection Officer's AGM Report 2014 - 2015

Safeguarding Officers:

- LESLEY WEAVER is the new Safeguarding Officer for the Diocese but CHRIS LEES is still dealing with certain issues.
- ISOBEL WELLER has joined me as Co-Safeguarding Officer.
- I have assumed the title of "Safeguarding Champion" (following a request from Bishop Robert that every congregation should appoint one).
- ELAINE BIRCH is the official ID checker. Her task is to check our security clearance forms submitted by prospective volunteers and to help them proceed with the DBS check for the UK. Elaine and I have been working through this procedure together.

Training:

- There has been a poor response to appeals for more volunteers – hence the low take-up for training sessions.
- Only 2 training sessions have taken place in the last year, resulting in only 2 new volunteers moving on to the rotas. The crèche rota has been especially affected by the lack of volunteers.
- The Diocese has recently (last month) made a new training package available online. It is now mandatory for everybody working with children / vulnerable adults to undergo appropriate training. This can now be done individually online.
(*ref. EUROPEAN ANGLICAN, no.65, Spring 2015, P4.*)
- Rev. Andy Markey, Isobel Weller and I attended a one-day, advanced Child Protection training session run by Robin Watts from Kidscape at St. George's School, Luxembourg in March.

Health and Safety:

- I carried out a "health and safety" check on 12.04.2015. The first-aid kits (replaced in 2014) were still untouched. They were in place as was the Accident Report file. The fire extinguishers are checked annually by the fire service. The fire escape routes are signed and the fire doors opened easily.
- I invited members of the congregation on a "Health and Safety awareness" walk around the church premises last Autumn. 6 people joined me.
- The Junior Church leaders pointed out that real "muscle power" is needed to help move the tables into position for the group activities.
- The Salle Maria Reinsheim is a potential "disaster area". During after-service coffee, parents are being insufficiently vigilant of their children's behaviour. Swinging on the metal handrail of the stairs and playing on the rocking chairs could lead to accidents. Points 7, 8 and 9 of our CHILDSAFE POLICY are not being heeded. Should we have a public notice as a reminder?

Hilary Cole