



Policy on Recruitment and DBS Disclosures

The following policy was agreed at the Arborfield, Barkham, and Christ Church, Wokingham PCC meetings held in May and June 2021, and will apply to all our churches, including Church at the Green.

We recognise that the Lord Jesus calls all members of his people to use their gifts to serve him by serving one another, including by teaching our children and young people about him, and by caring for the more vulnerable members of our church families and local communities.

In appointing people to particular roles within the church we will always consider whether they are in sympathy with our aims and beliefs as a family of churches. We also recognise the importance of doing everything we can to keep those we serve from harm.

Therefore:

1. This church is committed to the recognition of each church member's skills, experience and qualifications. We shall attempt to ensure that these are fully considered in the recruitment and appointment of paid staff and volunteers.
2. We shall assess all positions (whether for paid staff or volunteers) in order to determine whether a check is required from the Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) and, if so, at what level. For those positions requiring a check, we shall indicate in any advertisement (or other information about the position) the level of check and make clear that any offer of position will be subject to the receipt of satisfactory information from the DBS.
3. Where a position involves a DBS check, we shall encourage all applicants to provide details of any criminal record before an interview.
4. We shall obtain DBS checks for volunteers through an appropriate registered body and shall advise the Diocese which registered body we use.
5. If the Diocese advises that a DBS check contains information relevant to the position, we shall work with Diocesan staff to assess the risks and agree a course of action.
6. We shall follow Diocesan guidance on the renewal of applications for DBS checks.

Agreed by PCCs – May 2021

7. We shall ensure that DBS check information is passed only to those entitled to receive it.
8. We are committed to the fair and sensitive use of DBS check information. We shall refer to the Diocese any complaints about the DBS check process or the accuracy of DBS check information so that appropriate action can be taken; this may involve the use of the formal complaints procedure.
9. In dealing with all matters relating to Disclosure, we shall comply with the Disclosure and Barring Service's Code of Practice. We shall also comply with Diocesan policies and follow Diocesan procedures and guidance.

Our Recruiter is Philippa Allan (Christchurch Wokingham).

Signed: Minister of Arborfield:

Churchwarden:

Churchwarden:

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