



The Church@thePines

Protocol for advising the Pines Community School of notifiable safeguarding issues at The Church@thePines

Purpose

The Church@thePines meets each Sunday morning at the Pines Community School for worship. On an occasional basis the Church@thePines may meet there for other activities, e.g. a church picnic in the school grounds. The Church@thePines has a safeguarding policy that covers all age groups and is based on the model provided by the Methodist Church.

Although it is unlikely that there will be occasions when a safeguarding issue that is raised at the Church@thePines will affect the Pines Community School it is necessary to have in place a protocol to ensure that any such issues are promptly reported to the school.

Notifiable events

There are two situations where it would be necessary for the Church@thePines to notify the Pines Community School of a safeguarding issue.

1. A child who attends the Church@thePines and also attends the school is identified as being at risk of or subject to actual abuse by an attendee at the church.
2. An adult who attends the church who has been identified as, or is suspected of, being an abuser participates in school activities such as assemblies.
3. Any allegation of an event that has occurred whilst the individual is on any part of the school premises.

Procedure

If a notifiable event occurs, in addition to the internal church policy being followed the church safeguarding officer will, at the earliest opportunity, notify the Headteacher at the Pines Community School in writing and copy the School Business Manager. Copies of all emails and other documents will be retained with copies going to the Superintendent of the Berkshire Surrey Borders Methodist Circuit.

Implementation

This protocol was agreed by the Leadership Team of the Church@thePines on the 23rd September 2023 and is effective immediately.