

Safeguarding policy supplement C: video conferencing and social media with young people

ST HELEN BISHOPSGATE AND ST PETER - UPON-CORNHILL

Revised: June 2022 Date for review: June 2023

Brief for children's and youth group leaders

This document should be read alongside our safeguarding policy for children (part A) and our safeguarding policy for youth (part B).

Where it is necessary to meet with children (ages 0-18) online the principles and guidelines below should be followed to ensure we are safe when utilising various forms of video conferencing and social media with children.

These guides apply to all children's and youth groups at St Helen's.

Zoom

Our main meetings should happen through Zoom video conferencing software. Links for the regular meetings will be emailed to parents and young people will be able to click to join.

In line with our safeguarding policy this use of online video conferencing will:

- Have the permission of the PCC and safeguarding committee
- Always have 2 safely recruited and DBS checked leaders present, even in breakout rooms
- Have a register taken of all present at the meetings, including a register for each breakout room
- Expect leaders to behave appropriately around the young people
- "Display" safeguarding contact information within each meetings description

In addition, leaders are specifically requested to:

- Make sure they are appropriately dressed, as they would be for a usual children's or youth group.
- To be in an appropriate location
- To not record any group video conferences to avoid breaching GDPR and data storage policies.

Instagram

We will continue to run the youth group Instagram page and this will continue to be monitored by several leaders.

Personal contact via social media or text message

Leaders will not contact the young people directly whether by text message, direct social media message or phone call without the expressed and documented permission of both the young people's parents and the youth worker.