Jesus College Policy
on the Safeguarding of Children and Adults at Risk

1 Introduction and scope of this policy

1.1 Jesus College carries out activities which bring its staff, Fellows and others working on behalf of the College into contact with children and adults at risk. This can include contact with students, staff, work experience students, young conference guests and choristers.

1.2 The College is committed to creating and maintaining the safest possible environment for these people, as well as for its staff, and all reasonable steps will be taken to protect all parties from harm. In order to achieve this, the College will ensure its staff and volunteers are carefully selected, screened, trained and supervised. Furthermore, the College will endeavour to keep up to date with national developments relating to the care and protection of children and adults at risk.

1.3 Council has appointed a Safeguarding & Prevent Committee, the Terms of Reference of which are attached as Appendix B to this policy. This Committee will meet at least once a term and will be responsible for overseeing the effectiveness of policies and procedures and for ensuring that the College is following statutory requirements and best practice guidance.

1.4 This policy outlines the way in which the College intends to deal with such matters and applies to all members of the College community whose duties bring them into contact with children and/or adults at risk.
1.5 This policy should be read in conjunction with the following documents:

- Staff policy on the recruitment of ex-offenders
- Jesus College Handbook for Adult Choir Members
- Jesus College Guidelines for Good Practice for the Safeguarding of Children in the Chapel Choir
- ACAS Guidance on Employing Younger Workers
- Policy concerning relationships with between staff and students

2 Definitions

2.1 A “child” is anyone under the age of 18.

2.2 An “adult at risk” is any person who is aged 18 years or over and at risk of abuse or neglect because of their needs for care and/or support (Care Act 2014).

3 Special Provisions

3.1 Application of these Provisions

The provisions for special recruitment and training procedures and for the conduct of Disclosure and Barring Service checks are applied only at the present time to persons working with children or adults at risk within their activities within College. Council reviews the application of these provisions from time to time, to take account of any changed arrangements in College, new risks and new legislation.

3.2 Recruitment and training of staff

3.2.1 The following procedures will be used for all candidates to whom the College offers a position which will bring them into regular unsupervised contact with children or adults at risk:

- Applicants will be asked to complete an application form.
- Identity will be carefully checked, and applicants will be required to provide photographic documentation to confirm identity.
- Applicants will be asked to provide original documentation to provide proof of qualifications.
- Professional and character references will be sought, preferably including someone who can comment on the applicant’s experience of working with children or adults at risk.
- Previous employment history will be verified through references.
- Applicants will be required to undergo an appropriate level of Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) check.
- All appointed staff will be required to complete an agreed probationary period.
- All staff will be issued with the College’s Policy on the Safeguarding of Children and Adults at Risk.
- Safeguarding training will be provided to those working with children and/or adults at risk every three years and training records will be kept by the Head of HR (see training index at Appendix A).
- Those individuals who attend training courses arranged by an organisation other
than the College are required to advise the Head of HR of their attendance and provide copies of attendance certificates if requested.

3.3 Disclosure and Barring Service disclosures

3.3.1 Those who are involved in work situations where they have sustained or regular unsupervised access to children or adults at risk are exempt from the Rehabilitation of Offenders Legislation. This means that prospective staff, workers or volunteers must declare all criminal convictions, however long ago, and these will be taken into account when deciding on their suitability for working with children or adults at risk. No one will be permitted to undertake a role which involves regular contact with children or adults at risk without a satisfactory Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) check. A list of staff who have received DBS clearance is available from the Head of HR. Copies of DBS clearance documents will be held on individuals’ personnel files held by the Head of HR but remain the property of the individual.

3.3.2 However, a criminal record might not prevent a person from working for Jesus College in any other capacity (see Policy on the Recruitment of Ex-Offenders). If that person is then asked to undertake tasks which will bring them into unsupervised contact with children or adults at risk, such as work experience placements, any criminal conviction must be declared to the Head of HR who will take appropriate advice where necessary and will decide whether this task should be allocated to another member of staff.

3.3.3 In line with the DBS recommendations, the College will seek disclosures every three years.

3.4 Employment of Young Workers

3.4.1 A Young Worker is defined as anyone who is over compulsory school age, but under the age of 18. For example, the College may employ staff between the age of 16 and 18 on a part-time basis in the Catering Department, and through recognised apprenticeship schemes.

3.4.2 Staff under the age of 18 have additional legal protection relating to their hours of work. The Working Time Regulations 1998 will be adhered to in ensuring that young workers have the required rest breaks within a 24-hour period. This includes requirements for a rest break of at least 30 minutes if a shift will last longer than four and a half hours, and that the staff member receives at least two consecutive days off per week. Young workers must not work between the hours of midnight and 4am.

3.4.3 A Risk Assessment on each job role where a young worker is appointed will be undertaken and the Line Manager will have responsibility to discuss this with the staff member and implement any recommendations. The staff member must also be provided with information on health and safety precautions, any equipment and protective clothing needed, any training needed to do the job safely and information of what to do in the event of a fire, accident or other emergency. The Line Manager will be responsible for ensuring this is carried out.
3.4.4 Under Licensing Laws, a young worker is able to serve alcohol to College Guests with meals under the supervision of a Manager. No young worker is permitted to serve in the College Bars or without direct supervision.

3.4.5 The College regularly takes on work experience students for periods not exceeding 2 weeks’ duration. Risk Assessments are required in advance by the student’s school and, following consideration and approval, the school provides approval for the work experience placement. A representative of the school will be invited to College to review progress during the placement.

3.4.6 DBS checks are not usually required when employing young workers, unless there is a residential or travel element to the role. The HR Manager will individually assess the situation each time a young worker is appointed and decide whether any DBS checks are required.

3.4.7 All young workers will be directed to the College Policies on Equality, Diversity and Inclusion, and on Respect and Dignity at Work. It will be the Line Manager’s responsibility to ensure that the young worker has understood these policies.

3.5 Admission of students under the age of 18

3.5.1 From time to time the College may admit a student under the age of 18. The Tutorial Department has a set procedure in place in such cases which involves:

- Designating a legal guardian in the UK if the student is from outside of the UK.
- Communication with other departments, particularly the Catering Department in respect of serving alcohol.
- Communication with the Tutors, Director of Studies and Jesus College Students’ Union (JCSU).
- Consultation with the Head of HR on which DBS checks are in place and whether any further checks are necessary.
- The student’s personal details are kept up to date, including emergency contact details.
- Liaison with relevant Faculties to ensure appropriate arrangements, training and DBS checks are in place to support the safeguarding of the student.

3.5.2 A detailed Risk Assessment must be completed by the Tutorial Department in advance of the student arriving at College. A generic Risk Assessment template is available from the Head of HR and should be adapted to the individual student’s circumstances. This Risk Assessment and any recommended actions should be approved by the Designated Safeguarding Lead (see 8) in advance of the student arriving at College. A member of Tutorial Department, such as a Tutor, must then discuss this Risk Assessment with the student concerned and provide them with a copy.

3.5.3 The Tutorial Department Manager will be responsible for communicating this Policy to those who will be in contact with the student under the age of 18, and for ensuring that one-to-one contact with the student does not happen without the necessary DBS check being in place.
3.6 The attendance of children and/or adults at risk at College events.

3.6.1 The College has a statutory duty to ensure the health and safety of people attending an event held in College. The College Conference Office is responsible for assessing whether the nature of any event held in College may represent a risk to health and safety. In particular, consideration will be given to the safety and security of children or adults at risk attending any events.

3.6.2 In the case of events which are primarily attended by adult guests, the health and safety of any children and/or adults at risk attending lies directly with the organizer of the event, or the parents/guardians of the children or carers of adults at risk. This is stated in the booking terms and conditions. Event organisers can request standard Risk Assessments for each conference room directly from the College Conference Office.

3.6.3 In the case of events which are primarily attended by children and/or adults at risk, relevant Risk Assessments are carried out prior to approving the event by the event organizer in consultation with the Head Porter. The one exception to this is events booked by a Fellow or staff member to host a children’s party in College, when the health and safety responsibilities for the children attending lies directly with the person making the booking.

3.6.4 For summer school bookings where groups of children and/or adults at risk stay in College, Risk Assessments are carried out directly by the organisation making the booking. Risk Assessments of College Access events are carried out by the Tutorial Department. These are available on request.

3.6.5 In the case of individual bed and breakfast bookings, parents, guardians and carers are asked to take responsibility for the health and safety of any children and/or adults at risk who are staying with them in College. The accommodation booking platform specifically asks for the age of each guest and will not allow a child to stay in a room without an adult also being present. Self-identifying adults at risk staying in College are asked to complete a Personal Emergency Evacuation Plan on arrival at the Porters’ Lodge to ensure their safety during their stay.

3.7 Choristers in the Chapel Choir

3.7.1 The College has a statutory duty to ensure the health and safety of members of its Choir under the age of 18. The Choir & Chapel Office is responsible for ensuring that good practice is followed at all times in the day-to-day running of the Choir. A separate document entitled ‘Guidelines for Good Practice for the Safeguarding of Children in the Chapel Choir’ gives detailed information regarding steps taken to protect members of the Choir.

3.7.2 A detailed Risk Assessment is carried out for all trips involving choristers, in both the UK and abroad. Relevant licenses and permissions are sought for any activities which involve taking choir members out of full-time education.

3.7.3 The Dean of Chapel, Chaplain, Assistant Chaplain, Director of Music, Assistant Organist (where applicable), Choir & Chapel Office Coordinator, Choir Chaperone, Chorister singing teachers, and the student Organ Scholars, are subject to DBS checks and are required to attend safeguarding training (see training index at Appendix A).
Chaperones assisting in the care of choristers during trips and visits and adult members of the Chapel Choir are also subject to DBS checks. Choristers must be supervised at all times by a responsible adult who has been subject to a DBS check.

3.7.4 Parents or guardians are responsible for their children at all times when they may be in the College grounds but are not involved in official Choir activities. This includes delivering choristers to rehearsals and collecting them after rehearsals, services and concerts, as well as responsibility for their children at chorister parties, socials, or post-service receptions held within College grounds.

3.7.5 Adult members of the Chapel and College Choirs, Chapel Clerks and Secretaries, Ordinands on attachment at Chapel, and other members of the College staff or Fellowship who may encounter choristers under the age of 18, are asked to read the College’s policies and guidelines on Safeguarding. New adult members of the Chapel and College Choirs, who regularly rehearse and perform with choristers, are required to sign a document confirming that they have read and understood these documents. The Code of Conduct (see 4) is included in the Handbook for Adult Choir Members, distributed to all adult members of the Choir annually.

3.7.6 The College appoints a Designated Officer for Safeguarding Children (DOSC) with regard to the Chapel Choir, who can be contacted with any concern regarding the safety and welfare of choristers (see 8).
4. Code of Conduct

Those working with children or adults at risk must follow the Code of Conduct below which is based upon Church of England’s Code of Safer Working Practice (2021).

4.1 If you work with children or adults at risk you must:

- Treat all individuals with respect and dignity.
- Respect people’s rights to personal privacy.
- Ensure that your own language, tone of voice and body language are respectful.
- Ensure that children, young people and adults know who they can talk to about a personal concern.
- Record and report any concerns about a child, young person or adult and/or the behaviour of another worker with the person responsible for overseeing their work and/or the Designated Safeguarding Lead or, if in relation to children in the Chapel Choir, the Designated Officer for the Safeguarding of Children. All written records should be signed and dated.
- Obtain written consent for any photographs or videos to be taken, shown, displayed or stored.
- Always aim to work with or within sight of another adult.
- Ensure another adult is informed if a child needs to be taken to the toilet.
- Respond warmly to a child who needs comforting but make sure there are other adults around.
- Ensure that the child and parents are aware of any activity that requires physical contact and of its nature before the activity takes place.
- Ensure that all photographs and videos taken which feature choristers, taken during, for example, a tour or concert, are shared with the Choir & Chapel Office. Such photography should only occur in relation to the group activities of the Choir, be primarily for the College’s use and benefit, and occur with the consent of those being photographed.

4.2 You must not:

- Use any form of physical punishment.
- Be sexually suggestive about or to an individual.
- Scapegoat, ridicule or reject an individual or group.
- Permit abusive peer activities e.g. initiation ceremonies, ridiculing or bullying.
- Show favouritism to any one individual or group.
- Allow an individual to involve you in excessive attention seeking.
- Allow unknown adults access to children, young people and adults at risk.
  Visitors to activities for children, young people and adults at risk (e.g. chorister singing workshops) should always be accompanied by an approved person.
- Give lifts to children, young people or adults at risk who you are supervising, on their own or your own (unless there are exceptional circumstances e.g. in an emergency for medical reasons).
- Allow strangers to give lifts to children, young people or adults at risk.
• Smoke or drink alcohol in the presence of children, except when this is a social situation with family members/carers present
• Arrange social occasions with children and young people (other than events which also include family members/carers) outside organized group occasions.
• Befriend children, young people or adults at risk on social media.
• Make or store photographs or videos of individual children in the Choir on your personal phone, devices, cameras or computers, or not in relation to the group activities and purposes of the Choir.

4.3 In addition, with specific reference to choristers and probationers of the Chapel Choir:
• You must not make any contact with choristers or probationers or their families for reasons unrelated to the activities and work of the Choir.
• On no account should you give a chorister or probationer a gift or do anything which could be in any way considered a bribe or inducement to enter into a relationship or give rise to any false allegations of improper conduct against you.
• There must be no social media contact between you and the choristers or probationers of the Choir. This includes being ‘friends’ with choristers or probationers on Facebook etc.
• If you are invited to participate in social activities by chorister families, you are welcome to accept such invitations, but you are asked to provide a written record (i.e. an e-mail) to the Choir & Chapel Office Coordinator, for the purposes of your own protection.

5. General Guidance

5.1 Planning and supervision

5.1.1 All activities or assignments involving children or adults at risk should be planned in advance to ensure they take into account the age range and ability of the participants. Staff supervising activities or assignments involving children or adults at risk should be competent and trained to do so. Where appropriate, a risk assessment will be undertaken and documented.

5.1.2 All staff are required to ensure that, whenever possible, there is more than one adult present during activities with children or adults at risk, or at least that they are in sight or hearing of others. Workers or volunteers should avoid working alone with a child or an adult at risk wherever possible. If it is not avoidable, they should plan their work so that at least two adults are present at any time, including where possible a College staff member.
5.2 Physical Contact

5.2.1 Applying cautious common sense, a member of staff, worker or volunteer should not have any physical contact with a child or an adult at risk unless it is to prevent an accident or injury to themselves or anyone else (e.g. to prevent a fall) or in the case of medical assistance being needed (e.g. to administer first aid), in which case the prior consent of the affected person should be requested where possible. Where appropriate, consent from parents or those with parental or caring responsibility should be obtained. Any necessary physical contact with a child or an adult at risk should always be within the guidelines of being open to scrutiny, minimal, with the person’s permission (where practicable) and to their benefit alone.

5.2.2 If a child or an adult at risk is hurt or distressed, the staff member, worker or volunteer should do his/her best to comfort or reassure the affected person without compromising his/her dignity or doing anything to discredit the person’s own behaviour.

5.3 Communication

5.3.1 Communication with children or adults at risk is vital in establishing relationships built on trust. Those working with children or adults at risk should listen to what they are saying and respond appropriately. Children and adults at risk are entitled to the same respect as any member of staff, worker or volunteer. It should also be made clear to them what standards of behaviour and mutual respect are expected from them. It is important to remember that behaviours and intentions can easily be misinterpreted, no matter how well intentioned.

5.3.2 Those working with children or adults at risk should behave appropriately, ensure that language is moderated in their presence and should refrain from adult jokes or comments which are clearly unsuitable.

5.4 Suspicions of Abuse

5.4.1 Any student, staff member or Fellow who witnesses or suspects abusive behaviour towards a child or an adult at risk should record the details and report it to the Designated Safeguarding Lead, the Designated Officer for the Safeguarding of Children (if in relation to the children of the Chapel Choir), the Dean of Chapel or the Head of HR. It is not the College’s responsibility to investigate any suspicions. This requires expertise which the College does not have, and the responsibility is to report it only. Investigations will be carried out by the appropriate authorities with the full cooperation of the College.

5.4.2 The College’s Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) will appropriately record an allegation or reported incident. He/she will be responsible for contacting the statutory child protection agency, such as the Local Safeguarding Children Board, or the Police if necessary. (See section 6 for details about what happens in the event of an allegation or complaint.) During an investigation into allegations of abuse, it may be appropriate to suspend a worker or remove them from having any contact with children or adults at risk until an investigation has been carried out.
5.4.3 Any allegations of abuse made against any worker will be thoroughly investigated and dealt with through the College’s disciplinary procedure. Serious breaches may lead to dismissal.

5.5 Safety

5.5.1 The safety of people at work is paramount and the College is therefore committed to providing a safe environment within which to work. Those working with children or adults at risk should ensure that all appropriate risk assessments and security checks have been carried out prior to any activity or assignment. This could include first aid cover and accident reporting.

5.5.2 If transporting children or adults at risk, the transport should be checked to ensure it is roadworthy and adequate for the purpose. Any equipment used must be safe and only used for the purpose for which it is intended. Users should be adequately trained. Appropriate insurance should be up-to-date and adequate to cover such assignments and should cover the children/adults at risk.

5.6 Confidentiality

5.6.1 All information regarding children/adults at risk is highly confidential and should only be shared with appropriate parties on a need-to-know basis. The sharing of information internally amongst those with safeguarding and pastoral roles may be necessary and will only take place when the sharing of information is in the interests of the child or adult at risk.

5.6.2 All staff are expected to exercise reasonable care and refer to the College policy on Identification and Handling of Confidential Records and the Staff Handbook when dealing with confidential information.

5.7 Contact

5.7.1 Contact should not be made with any child or adult at risk for any other reason unrelated to the particular work. In particular, staff are required to do everything to maintain the College’s reputation for integrity and responsibility in dealing with such people, and should not enter into any social or other non-work-related arrangements with them, including contact via social media.

5.8 Gifts and inducements

5.8.1 On no account should anyone from the College give a child or an adult at risk a gift, receive a gift, or do anything which could be in any way considered a bribe or inducement to enter into a relationship or give rise to any false allegations of improper conduct against the individual.

6. In the event of a complaint or allegation

6.1 Within the College, the handling of complaints and allegations relating to children and adults at risk is the responsibility of College’s Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) (see 8).
6.2 Parents, choristers or others who have any concerns at any time relating to the safety of members of the Choir should contact the College’s Designated Officer for the Safeguarding of Children (DOSC) (see 8) without delay, who will liaise with the College’s DSL. Parents, choristers or others may also contact the College’s DSL directly.

6.3 If anyone feels unable to convey a concern to a senior member of College, then the NSPCC Whistleblowing Helpline should be used: the number is 0800 0280285. Children may wish to speak to their parents first about anything or anyone that is worrying them or making them feel unsafe.

6.4 Concerns will always be taken seriously and those expressing concerns will not be subjected to any detriment. However, where the safety of children or adults at risk is in question, only limited assurances of confidentiality can be given as the matter must be addressed at once through the proper channels. Any member of staff receiving concerns about the safety of children or adults at risk will listen and take notes, making no promises of absolute confidentiality, and refer the matter at once to the College’s DSL. The notes that are taken should be comprehensive and factual and should use full names rather than being anonymised.

6.5 If a child or an adult at risk is in immediate danger, the Police or Social Services should be called immediately. Dial the Police on 999 or Cambridgeshire Social Care on 0345 0455203 (children) or 0345 0455202 (adults). 01733 234724 can be called out of hours.

6.6 On receiving information, a complaint or an allegation, the DSL or other College member must take detailed notes of any complaint or allegation brought to him/her, listening carefully to all that is said, making no promises of absolute confidentiality. (Where handwritten notes are typed up later, the original contemporaneous notes will be retained.) The matter will thereafter be dealt with by the DSL in accordance with the College procedures and the senior management of the College will be kept informed, in confidence, unless for some reason this would place the child or adult at risk at increased risk of harm.

6.7 The Local Authority Designated Officer (LADO) will be informed within one working day of all allegations that an adult within College has:
- behaved in a way that has harmed a child or adult at risk, or may have harmed a child or adult at risk;
- possibly committed a criminal offence against or related to a child or adult at risk; or
- behaved towards a child or adult at risk in a way that indicates he/she may pose a risk of harm.
The advice of the LADO will be followed appropriately. Careful notes will be kept of information and advice received, decisions made and the reasoning behind them. In normal circumstances this will be done in full partnership with the parents or guardians of the child or adult at risk concerned, unless for some reason this would place the child or adult at risk at increased risk of harm.

6.8 In the event that the LADO advises the DSL that the matter should be referred to Children’s Social Care or the Police, the DSL for the College will refer this as advised and will convene a group including senior members of the College with full reference to the Safeguarding Authorities. The purpose of convening this group is to consider the implications for the College of the referral.

6.9 The College will collaborate fully with the statutory agencies concerned with child and adult at risk protection.

7. **Implementation, monitoring and review**

7.1. All staff, workers and volunteers at the College will be made aware of this policy and a copy will be available on JNet and from the Head of HR. Furthermore, a copy of this policy will be given to all relevant bodies with whom the College works and will be made available to parents and carers of children or adults at risk with whom the College plans to work.

7.2 Failure to follow the guidelines in this policy is considered a serious offence and will be investigated thoroughly and dealt with through the College’s disciplinary procedure. Serious breaches may lead to dismissal.

7.3 This policy will take effect from **13 March 2017 (revised 22 May 2017, 15 November 2017, 20 February 2019)**. The Head of HR has responsibility for implementing and monitoring this policy, which will be reviewed by the Safeguarding Committee on a regular basis (at least annually) following its implementation and additionally whenever there are relevant changes to legislation or current working practices.
8. **Contact Details**

Designated Safeguarding Lead, Jesus College, Cambridge
The Bursar
[https://bursar@jesus.cam.ac.uk](https://bursar@jesus.cam.ac.uk)
01223 339497

Designated Officer for the Safeguarding of Children, with regard to the College and Chapel Choirs
Dr Christopher Burlinson
[https://cmb29@cam.ac.uk](https://cmb29@cam.ac.uk)
01223 330788

Cambridgeshire Children’s Social Care (Children)
0345 0455203
Out-of-hours emergency duty team: 01733 234724
referralcentre.children@cambridgeshire.gov.uk

Cambridgeshire Local Authority Designated Officers for Safeguarding (LADO)
[https://LADO@cambridgeshire.gov.uk](https://LADO@cambridgeshire.gov.uk)
01223 727 967
Outside office hours emergency duty team: 01733 234 724

Cambridgeshire Adult Safeguarding Board (Adults)
0345 0455202
Out-of-hours emergency duty team: 01733 234724
referral.centre-adults@cambridgeshire.gov.uk
Appendix A: Safeguarding Training Index

This index is not exhaustive, but anticipates the safeguarding training needs for roles with particular responsibilities for the safeguarding of children or adults at risk. Unless otherwise specified, training should be completed and refreshed every three years.

This guide is developed from the Church of England’s Training and Development Framework 2019. For those with roles associated with the College Chapel, modules can be accessed through the CofE Safeguarding Portal (https://safeguardingtraining.cofeportal.org/login/index.php); these are available to access for those in other roles, but may be of less direct relevance. Equivalent staged levels of training can be found also through other providers.

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Designated Safeguarding Lead: Senior staff who have key roles in safeguarding policy, strategy and practice.

Basic Awareness: Recommended for anyone who needs a basic level of awareness of safeguarding.

Foundation: Required for anyone who has safeguarding responsibilities/contact with children and/or adults at risk.

Leadership: Required for anyone who has safeguarding leadership responsibilities/is leading activities involving children and/or vulnerable adults.

Senior Staff: Senior staff who have key roles in safeguarding policy, strategy and practice.