

The Diocese is committed to safeguarding as an integral part of the life and ministry of the Church. Supported by and in compliance with the policies and procedures of the Catholic Safeguarding Standards Agency in England and Wales, we are striving towards a culture of safeguarding where all are safe from harm and abuse and where everyone is encouraged and enabled to enjoy the fullness of life In Jesus Christ through the prayerful, nurturing, supportive and protective endeavours of the Catholic Community, both individually and collectively.

Our Parish Safeguarding Representative is Lisa Samuels. You can contact her on sg1.eastpreston@abdiocese.org.uk

[Safe Spaces](#) is a free, national support service independently run by First Light. It provides a confidential, personal and safe space for anyone who has been abused through their relationship with either the Church of England or the Catholic Church of England and Wales.

Safe Spaces comprises a team of trained support advocates, who are Independent Sexual Violence Advisors and who have received additional specific training in how the church responds to abuse cases, the way in which faith and church-related settings have been used to carry out abuse, and the particular issues affecting people who have had or still have, a relationship with the Church. The service provides remote support through the organisation's helpline, live chat facility and website. Remote support is provided for as long as the survivor needs. This can include advocating for the survivor, providing information (including information on church and police procedures), understanding individual needs and jointly working on individual support plans. If face-to-face support is also required, contact and referrals will be made with appropriate local organisations.

Contacting Safe Spaces: Safe Spaces opening hours are **Monday to Friday 9am – 9pm, Saturday 9-1pm and Sunday from 1-5pm** (excluding bank holidays, subject to review). You can contact Safe Spaces in a number of ways:

By phone; T: [0300 303 1056](tel:03003031056) or via their [website](#).