



Domestic Abuse  
Policy  
taken from the  
SAFEGUARDING  
POLICY

## Domestic Abuse Policy

This policy should be read in conjunction with the national policy for safeguarding, Winchester Cathedral Safeguarding Practice Guidance and the Diocesan policies and practice guidelines.

**National definition of domestic violence and abuse** (Home Office – March 2013)  
[https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/42701/guide-on-definition-of-dv.pdf](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/42701/guide-on-definition-of-dv.pdf)

Any incident or pattern of incidents of controlling, coercive, threatening behaviour, violence or abuse

- Between those aged 16 and over
- Who are, or have been, intimate partners or family members
- Regardless of gender or sexuality

The abuse can encompass, but is not limited to:

- Psychological
- Physical
- Sexual
- Financial
- Emotional

More detail can be read in this link <https://www.churchofengland.org/safeguarding/safeguarding-e-manual/safeguarding-children-young-people-and-vulnerable-adults/3> (last updated 19th December 2021)

**All forms of domestic abuse are wrong and must stop.**

The Chapter at Winchester Cathedral is committed to promoting and supporting environments which:

- Ensure that all people feel welcomed, respected and safe from abuse.
- Protect those vulnerable to domestic abuse from actual or potential harm.
- Recognise equality amongst people and within relationships.
- Enable and encourage concerns to be raised and responded to openly and consistently.

**We recognise that:**

- All forms of domestic abuse cause damage to the survivor and express an imbalance of power in the relationship.
- All survivors (regardless of age, disability, gender, heritage, ethnicity, religious belief, sexual orientation or identity) have the right to equal protection from all types of harm or abuse.
- Domestic abuse can occur in all communities.
- Domestic abuse may be a single incident, but can also be a systematic, repeated pattern which escalates in severity and frequency.

- Domestic abuse, if witnessed or overheard by a child, is a form of child abuse by the perpetrator of the abusive behaviour.
- Working in partnership with children, adults and other agencies, is essential in promoting the welfare of any child or adult suffering abuse.

**We will endeavour to respond to domestic abuse by**

**In all our activities:**

- Valuing, listening to and respecting both survivors and alleged or known perpetrators of domestic abuse

**In our publicity:**

- Raising awareness about other agencies, support services, resources and expertise, through providing information in public and women-only areas of relevance to survivors, children and alleged or known perpetrators of domestic abuse

**When concerns are raised:**

- Ensuring that those who have experienced abuse can find safety and informed help.
- Working with the appropriate statutory bodies, during an investigation into domestic abuse, including when allegations are made against a member of the Cathedral community.

**In our care by:**

- Ensuring that information and appropriate pastoral care is offered to any child, young person or adult who has suffered abuse.
- Identifying and outlining the appropriate relationship of those with pastoral care responsibilities with both survivors and perpetrators of domestic abuse.