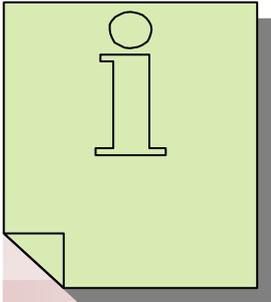


CSAS

# Safeguarding Matters

## Welcome to the 11th issue of Safeguarding Matters

This is the 11th issue of a bi-monthly Newsletter that CSAS releases to all those within the Church with some responsibility for safeguarding vulnerable groups. If you have any comments to make about this issue, please email Sally Robinson (sally.robinson@csas.uk.net)



### Inside this issue:

**VBS vs CRB** 1  
**Minimum Age**

**EGs of VBS & CRB** 2

## How does Vetting & Barring differ from a CRB check?

### What are the Key Features of Vetting & Barring (VBS)?

- ◆ Only need to apply once to obtain registration status
- ◆ Fully portable between concurrent and consecutive roles with vulnerable groups (paid and voluntary)
- ◆ Confirms there is "no known reason" why the individual cannot work with children/vulnerable adults
- ◆ Once registered the person is "subject to monitoring". This means that those organisations who register "an interest" indicating that the person works (paid or unpaid) with that organisation, will be notified if that persons status changes to barred in light of particular validated safeguarding risks being identified.

### How does the CRB Disclosure differ from VBS?

- ◆ The CRB check provides a full picture of a person's criminal history relevant to the specific role they are applying for
- ◆ The content of a Disclosure assists with assessing suitability of the person for the nature and the content of the role

To help illustrate how Vetting & Barring will work in relation to CRB Disclosures, some scenarios are provided overleaf which we hope you will find useful.



### Vetting & Barring Registration— from 16 years of age

The Independent Safeguarding Authority require that anyone working with vulnerable groups from the age of 16 is registered onto the Vetting & Barring Scheme before undertaking a new role with children/ vulnerable adults. As the registrations to the Scheme commence from July 2010, the Catholic Church policy will be amended in due course to reflect this legal requirement.

Historically the national policy of the Catholic Church of England & Wales has been to not CRB check those under 18 years of age (unless they will be undertaking an eligible role shortly after attaining the age of 18).

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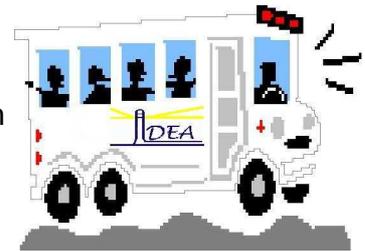
## Unsure how VBS and CRB checks will work with Church roles?

CSAS appreciates that the introduction of the new Scheme may seem confusing particularly with CRB checks still being required for some roles.

As from July 2010, any person applying to work with vulnerable groups in any context (paid; voluntary) in the Church will be required by law to ensure that the individual is registered with the Vetting & Barring scheme. If they are not registered, we will need to submit the individual's application to the Scheme register and have their status confirmed before they undertake the role. The scenarios below are applicable as from July 2010.

### Scenario 1:

John offers to drive the minibus for the childrens activities within the Parish. As they will be working with children, John must be registered with the VBS scheme before undertaking the role. As the role involves driving on behalf of the parish, a CRB Disclosure is also required to check suitability for the particular role. John presents his unique VBS Scheme register 16 digit reference which the Church checks online. Upon submitting the Disclosure application, the resulting CRB Certificate has a number of driving offences over the last 4 years with an offence for driving without due care and attention less than 6 months ago. Would you appoint John as the childrens minibus driver?



### Scenario 2:

Marion is asked by the Parish Priest to assist the Childrens Liturgy group on a regular basis. As the role involves working with children, Marion is required to be registered with the VBS scheme before undertaking the role. Marion is retired and doesn't have any other voluntary roles that work with vulnerable groups therefore she hasn't already registered onto the Scheme. The Church submits her VBS application and receives details of her unique registration number. As her Vetting & Barring status confirms there is "no known reason" why she cannot work with children, we do not require a CRB Disclosure as any relevant safeguarding offences would have been assessed by the Independent Safeguarding Authority and lead them to a barring decision if applicable.



### Scenario 3:

Peter is short-listed as a Trustee of a Catholic charity that provides residential activities for children. Peter is required to be registered on the Vetting & Barring scheme as a Trustee of a childrens charity however a CRB Disclosure is also required to check his suitability to undertake a role as a Trustee. Peter hasn't already registered onto the VBS arrangement, so the Church submits an application for his registration status which is confirmed with his unique number. The CRB Certificate does not have any offences listed which may be relevant i.e. fraud. Peter can be formally appointed.



CSAS is on the move again -  
please check the CSAS  
website in late August for  
our new address and contact details

The next issue of  
"Safeguarding Matters" is due  
out in October 2009