

New Wine Discipleship Year Addendum

February 2025

This is to be read alongside the New Wine Safeguarding Policy, and there will be a local process guidelines that mirrors this policy and provides further guidance on reporting a disclosure locally.

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New Wine Discipleship Year (NWDY) Introduction

The New Wine Discipleship is a one-year programme for training and equipping 18–25-year-olds delivered by a number of hubs around the nation.

We have nine hubs who work with a number of placement churches where the students serve on teams, visiting the hub church once a week for training. In the instance of some students, their Placement church will also be the Hub Church. All NWDY students are safely recruited through their placement church. Some students are residential - meaning that they live in a shared house or are placed with a host family linked to their placement.

Purpose of this document

This addendum has been formulated to outline the processes for reporting safeguarding concerns within the discipleship programme at New Wine relating to residential and non-residential students. The requirements around reporting will be shared with all students attending the programme and those with key safeguarding responsibilities to ensure that all involved in the programme are clear about the process of reporting concerns

This document offers insight into the national policy. In addition, each Hub will have its safeguarding process guidelines that will sit along with this policy, further detailing at a local level.

Our agreement with the Hub Church (and Placement Church if different) stipulates that the Hub Church (and Placement Church if different) takes full responsibility for the care, well-being, and support of any student placed with them. This would include, but not be limited to, ensuring that Safeguarding procedures, Data Protection, and Health and safety processes and policies are implemented and followed.

Process of reporting concerns in relation to students on the programme

This document addresses three issues:

- Concerns about students attending the Discipleship Programme where safeguarding concerns become known,
- Students attending the programme who may be experiencing vulnerabilities and have been harmed or are at risk of harm.
- The conduct of the students relating to misconduct or low-level concerns.

In the event that students have safeguarding concerns in relation to other students attending the programme in their local church, they must follow local church reporting policy.

Students experiencing harm or at risk of harm will have opportunities to share their concerns within a safe environment through regular meetings with the Hub Leader and their regular ongoing support mechanisms. Appropriate pastoral arrangements must be in place for students attending the programme when safeguarding concerns become known. Pastoral support should not be provided by an individual who has a supervisor role or role within the safeguarding process and must have the skills and resilience to be able to offer appropriate levels of support.

The Hub Leader will inform the New Wine Safeguarding Team of concerns as soon as practically possible (within 24 hours) using one of our three methods of reporting:

1. QR Referral Form: Scan and use the QR Referral Form at any New Wine event. This will similarly be triaged and acted on by the New Wine Safeguarding Team.
2. Verbal Reporting: Share concerns directly with the Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) or Deputy DSL via telephone call on 07956965991.
3. Written Reporting: Send an email to the Safeguarding Team: safeguarding@new-wine.org

We understand that different church denominations will have different procedures. The decision to investigate and ask students to voluntarily step back from role or suspension (without prejudice) when safeguarding concerns are being investigated must be led by the Church Leader and/or the Church Safeguarding officer in conjunction with the NW DY ministry lead.

Process of reporting concerns to New Wine in relation to students on the programme

All safeguarding concerns relating to students on the Discipleship Year Programme must also be reported to the New Wine Safeguarding Team as soon as practically possible (within 24 hours).

The Safeguarding Lead from the local church should make the report to the New Wine Safeguarding Team: safeguarding@new-wine.org. The New Wine Safeguarding Team will manage communications with the New Wine Network.

If students have safeguarding concerns about children and/or vulnerable adults within the church community. In that case, students must inform the local church Safeguarding Team and follow their established policy and reporting procedure in place.

In the event that a disclosure is made directly to New Wine, this will be sent to the New Wine Safeguarding Team who will inform the local Safeguarding Team (e.g. the Diocesan Safeguarding Team) as soon as practically possible (within 24 hours). The local Safeguarding Team will liaise with the church accordingly. In the event that a student contacts the local Safeguarding Team directly, this team will need to contact New Wine Safeguarding Team as soon as practically possible (within 24 hours) and will liaise with the church accordingly.

New Wine must be informed and kept up to date about any investigations and the status of a student, for example, if they had been removed from a programme due to misconduct. New Wine and the local Safeguarding Team will provide regular updates in this regard. Final decision for dismissal from the Discipleship Year due to a Safeguarding incident sits with the local Safeguarding Team, in consultation with relevant external bodies (i.e. New Wine, LADO, thirtyone:eight).

The New Wine DSL will support the Hub Leader with any arising investigation and subsequent referrals to LADO service or DBS Authority. Our processes align with statutory guidance to achieve the highest standards in safeguarding children and vulnerable adults.

In the event that it is determined that a matter relates to a student's well-being or conduct and is not a safeguarding matter, then New Wine expects to be involved in decision-making regarding a student being removed from a course. The final decision sits with the Placement Church Leader, in consultation with the Ministry Lead for DY.