

Data sharing and Confidentiality Policy

This policy relates to staff and volunteers of All Saints Community Development Company, All Saints Community Projects, All Saints Parish Church, All Saints Community Catering, The Robin Centre (All Saints)

Everyone involved with All Saints is entitled to confidentiality. Aspects of confidentiality will be found in other policies and all our staff and volunteers are expected to work within them. Young people have the right to confidentiality.

Your attention is drawn to the confidential nature of information contained within All Saints. The unauthorised use and disclosure of any personal information about individuals, any financial or other personal information is gross misconduct and a dismissible offence. It is also a requirement following termination of the contract, whether you resign or are dismissed by All Saints that confidentiality be maintained. In the case of computerised information, breach of confidentiality could result in a prosecution for an offence or action for civil damages under the Data Protection Act 1984.

The restrictions on the employee's use of confidential information shall not apply to:

1. Confidential information which comes into the public domain other than in consequences of his/her unlawful disclosure
2. Any protected disclosure made in accordance with s.43A of the Employment Rights Act 1996
3. Any information which the employee has acquired other than through the performance of All Saints
4. Any information which is required to be disclosed by the employees by order of a court of competent jurisdiction or and appropriate regulatory authority or otherwise required by law

Gossip

All Saints believes in mutual respect and equality. We abhor gossip in any form that damages individuals or is disrespectful. Employees should not involve themselves in any form of gossip with other employees, volunteers, service users or members of the public.

Some one may want to talk to you in private.

Any conversations that take place in a mentoring/counselling session should be registered as completely private.

What is shared with you must not be passed on, except in certain circumstances:

All Saints Community Projects
All Saints Parish Church
All Saints Community Catering
The Robin Centre
All Saints Community Development Company

} Data Protection and Confidentiality Policy

1. Child Protection

If any information is disclosed during the session that indicates a child/young person is being abused, or is abusing others, the Child Protection Procedures should be enacted:

Tell the person in charge of your session and the Safeguarding coordinator

‘Abuse’ covers neglect, as well as sexual, physical and emotional abuse (for types of abuse see the Safeguarding and Child protection Policy. If at all possible, you should inform the child/young person as directly and openly as you are able, of your intentions. For more information see our Safeguarding and Child Protection Policy.

2. Crime

Provided it is not a safety issue, or a requirement of Law Court, disclosure of offending (either past or present) need not be passed on. However, neither should it be condoned. Encouragement and support should be given to encourage a change of behaviour. Information about serious offending, where anyone’s personal safety is at risk should be passed on to your manager/leader and the police. Again, if at all possible, keep the person informed of your intentions.

Unless there is a disclosure of criminal activities relating to money laundering, people trafficking or acts of terrorism which should be reported immediately to the police and your line manager with consideration of your personal safety

If the police visit the project, asking for confidential information, refer them to your manager/leader.

1. Safeguarding vulnerable adults

If you have any concerns about a vulnerable adult, through what they have told you then you should pass this information to your manager/leader and follow the Safeguarding Vulnerable Adults policy.

It is important that both staff and volunteers feel supported in their role in All Saints. Managers/leaders should be informed of anything with regards to service users that there may be concerns about. Service users should always be clear that managers/leaders may need to be informed of certain situations. This would not be necessarily shared across the team – this decision would be made by the manager/leader. If you have any worries or concerns only share initially with your manager/leader.

Different parts of All Saints may have different requirements.

All Saints Community Projects

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All Saints Community Catering

The Robin Centre

All Saints Community Development Company

Data Protection and Confidentiality Policy

Supervision

During supervision and group discussions, you will discuss your experiences of working with All Saints. Every effort should be made to preserve the anonymity of any person being discussed. If you do become aware of who the person is, you must respect their right to privacy. All supervision/support meetings remain confidential between the supervisee and supervisor although, if relevant, information may be discussed with the supervisor's line manager.

Referrals

If you want to refer anyone to another organisation, you should only do so with the knowledge and consent of the person. Preferably, the person should self-refer, with your support.

Record Keeping

Any written records concerning staff, volunteers or service users are the property of All Saints and should be locked away.

Records should not be kept at home but returned to the relevant filing system as soon as possible. Everyone has the right to see their own files at any time and have the right to ask for them to be forgotten unless they are under 18 (see below) or they are records of child protection or vulnerable adults cases (see Safeguarding policies)

Complete anonymity must be preserved in cases being submitted in portfolios for training and assessment purposes.

If you are being asked about any service user from someone outside All Saints, you should give no information without permission from the manager/leader responsible for your All Saints organisation. The person responsible will only give information on a need to know basis.

Counselling - Mentoring/counselling records should be kept in a secure filing system, and given a number code, and should be written anonymously. The only person with full access to these records is the person responsible for this work or equivalent. If the person being counselled is under 18 years old then their records should be kept for 7 years after their 18th birthday. (see the BACP framework for further information)

**The General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) May 2018
Underlying Principles**

All Saints Community Projects
All Saints Parish Church
All Saints Community Catering
The Robin Centre
All Saints Community Development Company

Data Protection and Confidentiality Policy
3

The law is complex but there are a number of underlying principles, including that personal data:

2. Will be processed lawfully and transparently
3. Is only used for a specific processing purpose that the data subject has been made aware of and no other, without further consent
4. Collected on a data subject should be adequate, relevant and limited i.e only the minimum amount of data should be kept for specific processing
5. Must be accurate and where necessary kept up to date
6. Should not be stored for longer than necessary, and that storage is safe and secure

Each All Saints Organisation should have a Data Privacy Notice that is available to view

For further information see:

'Parishes and the GDPR' – Parish Resources – Birmingham CoE Diocese or BVSC

In our policies:

- 'All Saints organisations' refers to the 5 members of the All Saints family
- 'Board' refers to the Boards, committees or legal entities that govern those All Saints organisation.
- 'Manager/leader' refers to people who are in charge of various activities across the All Saints organisations. They may be paid staff or volunteers

Policy Review Dates

**Policy reviews to be carried out by representatives of All Saints Parish Church,
All Saints Community Development Company, All Saints Community Projects,
All Saints Community Catering, The Robin Centre**

Name of

Policy.....

Reviewed on	Next review date
April 2021	2026

All Saints Community Projects
All Saints Parish Church
All Saints Community Catering
The Robin Centre
All Saints Community Development Company

Data Protection and Confidentiality Policy
5
