

Our Safeguarding Audit Results

What the Catholic Safeguarding Standards Agency (CSSA) found when they reviewed our safeguarding practice — July 2026

In April 2026, an independent CSSA reviewer visited the Greyfriars to assess how effective our safeguarding arrangements are. They spoke with our leadership, trustees, safeguarding team, friars, and outside safeguarding adviser, and reviewed our policies and records.

OUR OVERALL RESULT

Comprehensive Assurance

The second-highest of seven possible ratings.

Standard	Result
1. Leadership, governance and culture	Exemplary
2. Communicating our safeguarding message	Comprehensive Assurance
3. Caring for those who report harm	Comprehensive Assurance
4. Managing allegations and concerns	Comprehensive Assurance
5. Supporting those accused (respondents)	Comprehensive Assurance
6. Safer recruitment and HR practice	Comprehensive Assurance
7. Training and support for safeguarding	Exemplary
8. Quality assurance and improvement	Exemplary

What the reviewer praised

- Clear policies, a safeguarding lead, DLPs, and an outside safeguarding consultant
- Strong trustee oversight, backed by a three-year safeguarding strategy
- Good safety arrangements in friaries and churches, with visible supervision and sign-in records
- Clear, varied safeguarding communication, including for children
- Thorough safer recruitment, with required checks and sign-off
- Comprehensive, role-specific training with no compliance issues
- A strong culture of learning, with annual self-assessments and reporting to trustees

Where we can do even better

No significant weaknesses were found. Suggestions build on existing strong practice:

- Offer safeguarding information in more formats (e.g. printed handbooks)
- Give key people extra training in supporting survivors sensitively
- Consider extra support for those who handle safeguarding concerns
- Strengthen support for those helping those who may have been accused
- Introduce KPIs to monitor recruitment and training data

What happens next: We are already working through these suggestions, with most due within 3 to 12 months. It is anticipated that the CSSA will visit after a further three years.

Questions? Contact Sarah Farnsworth, Designated Liaison Person, at ukdesignatedlp@thegreyfriars.org