

# Rooted in Jesus and Safeguarding

*Rooted in Jesus* is published and supported by The Mathetes Trust, a UK registered charity.



Every organisation working directly with children or vulnerable adults is advised to follow a clearly defined safeguarding policy. Within the UK this means that individuals are required to hold a current Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) certificate.

The Mathetes Trust sends small teams of *Rooted in Jesus* trainers to run diocesan conferences for church leaders (ordained and lay) who have been selected and invited by the diocesan bishop. Our teams work in partnership with, and under the authority of, the bishop and his designated staff. We do not work directly with children or vulnerable adults, so our ministry does not fall within the remit of the formal safeguarding guidelines. However, we nonetheless seek to work to the highest standards of safety and integrity. Our code of conduct is as follows:

## Recruitment

- RinJ teams are normally made up of clergy, lay church leaders and school teachers – who will already hold a DBS certificate by nature of their existing role in the church or in the community. All team members are asked to provide us with a copy of their DBS certificate.
- Team leaders are usually clergy with prior experience of *Rooted in Jesus* and a track record of fruitful ministry at home. Team members are recruited from among those whose ministry we support in the UK, or from those who have been personally recommended by a team leader. All are required to provide references. We do not accept unsolicited applications to join RinJ teams.

## Accountability

- Team members have two alternative lines of reporting. When they are invited to join a team they receive a letter of welcome from the Mathetes Trust administrator, providing an alternative contact to the team leader who will guide and support them during the mission itself.
- Whilst abroad, our teams work under the authority and oversight of the local diocesan bishop or his appointed representatives. The team leader is responsible for the day to day work and conduct of the team.
- After each visit, team leaders and host bishops are asked to evaluate both the conferences and the contribution made by individual team members. Team members are also asked to submit a confidential evaluation of their experience to the RinJ office.

Rooted in Jesus has been running since 2002, and we are happy to say that throughout that time all our teams have maintained the highest standards of ethical and professional conduct.

For more information on DBS requirements visit the UK government DBS service [website](https://www.gov.uk/guidance/apply-for-a-disclosure-and-barring-service-certificate).

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