

## Church health and safety - 'Little and often' is the key to success

**See our short video for practical tips and advice at**

[www.methodistinsurance.co.uk/healthandsafety](http://www.methodistinsurance.co.uk/healthandsafety)

Health and safety can be a confusing matter for any Methodist church. There are so many aspects to consider – pathways, working at heights, electrical wiring, safeguarding – and even if you're familiar with the legislation, regulatory changes are commonplace. So rather than trying to do everything at once, take things one step at a time, with regular monthly and annual checks. To help you with this we have put together a **short video** at [www.methodistinsurance.co.uk/healthandsafety](http://www.methodistinsurance.co.uk/healthandsafety) .

Churches are not exempt from health and safety legislation and the volume of claims we see at Methodist Insurance relating to health and safety failings is rising. It is vital, therefore, to understand your church's health and safety responsibilities and take action where necessary.

### Key tips for keeping on the right side of the law are:

Carry out regular risk assessments and store the completed forms safely.

Use our self assessment form to gain an understanding of the risks your church faces.

Write a health and safety policy – the law says you must have one.

Appoint a health and safety sub-committee, including a member with specific responsibility for health and safety. Again, this is a minimum requirement.

Make health and safety a regular agenda item at your Church Council meetings.

Record any incidents in your accident book. These records could prove important if an insurance claim is made.

Write everything down – statements from witnesses, details of incidents. A court of law will always want hard evidence.

To learn more about how to meet your health and safety responsibilities without getting lost in the detail, watch our **video** at [www.methodistinsurance.co.uk/healthandsafety](http://www.methodistinsurance.co.uk/healthandsafety)