

# Church security guidance

The protection of stained glass windows



These notes set out guidance for churches wishing to protect their stained glass windows.

All external windows containing stained, painted or engraved glass must be externally protected by stainless-steel grilles or polycarbonate sheeting which entirely covers the window in order to be effective against malicious damage.

In the case of polycarbonate sheeting, care should be taken to allow for ventilation.

## Installation

The installation of such protection is a specialised matter and should only be entrusted to a glazier or builder well experienced in installing such protection and in working on church buildings.

## Important notes

It is the responsibility of the party implementing the above specification to ensure that the implementation does not contravene any statutory or Local Authority requirements, e.g. under the Health and Safety at Work Act, Regulatory Reform (Fire Safety) Order, etc.

## Photographs

It is important to take photographs of all stained glass windows. Although a general shot of a window is helpful, these often do not provide sufficient detail for a stained glass restorer. More detailed photographs are needed. Heads, hands, draperies, landscapes and wildlife elements are the most difficult to replicate. Consider the lighting; ensure that you photograph west windows in the morning and east windows in the afternoon.



## Information in this document

This guidance is provided for information purposes and is general and educational in nature and does not constitute legal advice. You are free to choose whether or not to use it and it should not be considered a substitute for seeking professional help in specific circumstances. Accordingly, The Baptist Insurance Company PLC shall not be liable for any losses, damages, charges or expenses, whether direct, indirect, or consequential and howsoever arising, that you suffer or incur as a result of or in connection with your use or reliance on the information provided in this guidance except for those which cannot be excluded by law. Where this guidance contains links to other sites and resources provided by third parties, these links are provided for your information only. Baptist Insurance is not responsible for the contents of those sites or resources. You acknowledge that over time the information provided in this guidance may become out of date and may not constitute best market practice.

## Need to contact us?

For further information and advice on security for churches:

Call our Risk Management Advice Line on

**0345 600 7531**

Monday to Friday, 9am to 5pm (excluding Bank Holidays).

We may monitor or record calls to improve our service.

Email us at: [risk.advice@baptist-ins.com](mailto:risk.advice@baptist-ins.com)

### The Baptist Insurance Company PLC.

Benefact House,  
2000, Pioneer Avenue,  
Gloucester Business Park,  
Brockworth, Gloucester,  
GL3 4AW, United Kingdom.

Telephone: 0345 070 2223

Email: [enquiries@baptist-ins.com](mailto:enquiries@baptist-ins.com)

Website: [www.baptist-insurance.co.uk](http://www.baptist-insurance.co.uk).

