

5. On 1 September 2016, I became the interim Headmaster, continuing with my role as Procurator until October 2016 when it was possible to appoint Oliver Pickstone as my replacement.
6. On 12 November 2016, I was confirmed in post as the Headmaster by the trustees of SLET.

(b) Details of any handover in relation to safeguarding matters or any other concerns relating to child sexual abuse that were brought to your attention when you started the role.

7. I will, as briefly as possible, explain that the Rule of St Benedict requires that the Abbot of a Benedictine Community (such as the Abbot of Ampleforth) listens to the advice and concerns of the Community. Equally, and by extension, the members of the Community are jointly concerned in the work and therefore property of Ampleforth. At Ampleforth, the Abbot meets monthly with his Council (this body also comprises the trustees of AAT) and formally three times each year with the whole monastic community in meetings known as Chapter, whose permission he requires for certain actions, such as for extraordinary expenditure currently defined as expenditure in excess of £200,000.
8. I became a trustee of AAT in 2004 and a trustee of SLET at the same time.
9. As a trustee of AAT I am given a full spectrum of information concerning all events at Ampleforth. As a trustee of SLET, I am given more detailed information concerning the School. Equally, as I note in my earlier answers above, as Procurator, I had a detailed knowledge of all significant events which took place at Ampleforth.
10. Additionally, at SLET meetings, I received advice from the Ampleforth Safeguarding Commission on any current safeguarding issue or concern as well as the steps which had been or were to be taken to ensure that the School adopted best practice in respect of all safeguarding matters. Further detail as to how I received this information is contained in my answer to question 3(e) below. At AAT meetings, I was supplied with a copy of the minutes of every meeting of the Safeguarding Commission.
11. The collective effect of my three positions (and membership of F&GP) meant that I had full information relating to all safeguarding issues concerning the School and the Community when I became Headmaster. Given these circumstances, there was no need for a formal handover meeting
12. This was an atypical situation and would not have been the case had the position of Headmaster been taken by anyone other than myself.
13. Thus, had the position of Headmaster been filled by either an external lay candidate or any other member of the Community, handover meetings would have taken place with the designated safeguarding lead, health and safety co-ordinator and probably also,